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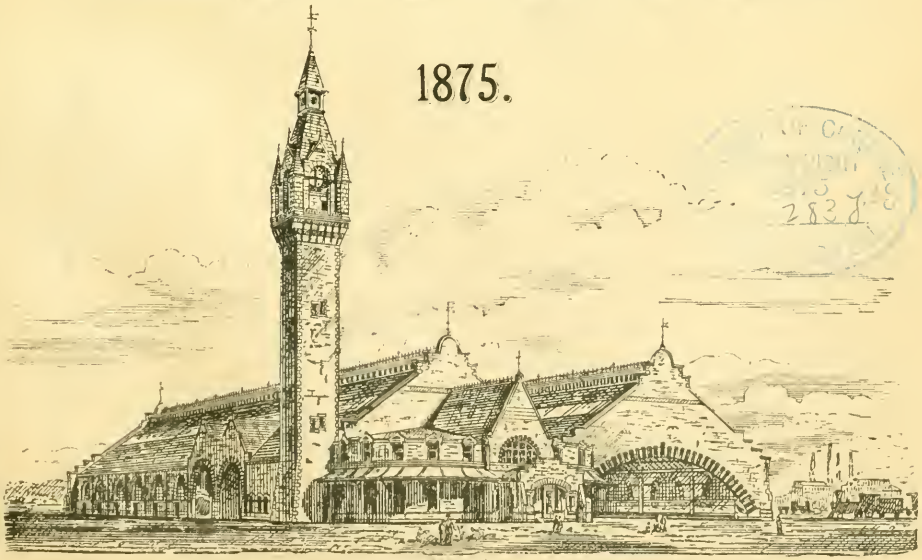
WORCESTER

ILLUSTRATED.

1875.



JAMES A. AMBLER & CO. . . . . WORCESTER, MASS.

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AMES PLOW COMPANY,

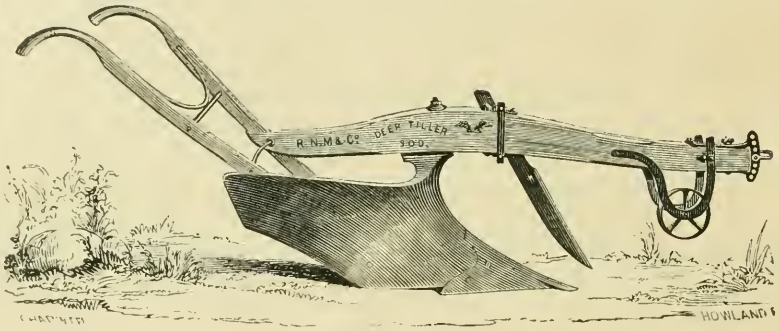
MANUFACTURERS OF

Agricultural Implements and Machines

DEALERS IN

Grass, Field, Garden and Flower Seeds,

FERTILIZERS, ETC.



SOLE MAKERS OF

The Genuine Eagle Plows,
Prouty & Mears' Center Draft Plows,
Sessions & Knox's Patent Hard Steel Plows,
Hakes' Improved Swivel Plows,
The American Hay Tedder,
Burt's Self-Adjusting Horse Rake,
Harrington's Combined Seed Sower and Cultivator,
French's Patent Cultivator,
Little Giant Wheel Jacks,
Ross' Patent Lawn Mowers, etc.

WAREHOUSES:

Quincy Hall, BOSTON.

53 Beekman Street, NEW YORK.

FACTORIES:

Prescott Street, Worcester, Mass.

AND AYER, MASS.

WORCESTER ILLUSTRATED.

THE reader need scarcely be told that Worcester is one of the most charming little cities in all the country, for he probably knows that already, nor yet of the satisfaction and pleasure which her inhabitants derive from their citizenship. "Show me a Worcester man," said a Philadelphia gentleman to the writer, "and I will show you a man who is *proud of his home!*" and it is only a natural pride. City and country are here beautifully combined. The hills, whose moderate summits are variously crowned with forest, pasture and granite, with colleges and academies, completely surround and beautify the city, with its well-built streets, its warehouses, residences, and its manufactories; while, stretching away in the distance, may be discerned the top of old Wachusett, famous in story, and now grown to be a popular summer resort. It is here that the Rev. Dr. Storrs of Brooklyn and men of his stamp spend their recreative weeks, in preference to the more crowded White Mountain houses, or the aristocratic resorts at the beaches, where nature's calm gives sweeter rest and nothing interferes with such rejuvenation as is sought by professional men during summer vacations.

Worcester has a history of her own, and although this is not perhaps properly a part of a work of this kind, yet the general reader will not probably be averse to our inserting brief outlines and items in the course of the work. Suffice it now to say that the first settlement of the place was in 1685, although grants for the settlement had been made in 1668, nearly twenty years earlier. The Indians, however, pillaged and burned to such an extent that one after another of the settlers retired from the place, until in 1702 it was entirely depopulated. In 1713 another settlement was made by Jonas Rice and family, and from this time Worcester has grown slowly but steadily until her population now numbers upwards of fifty thousand. In 1722 the first town meeting was held; in 1731 the first court was held; in 1740 the first school-house was built, and in 1775

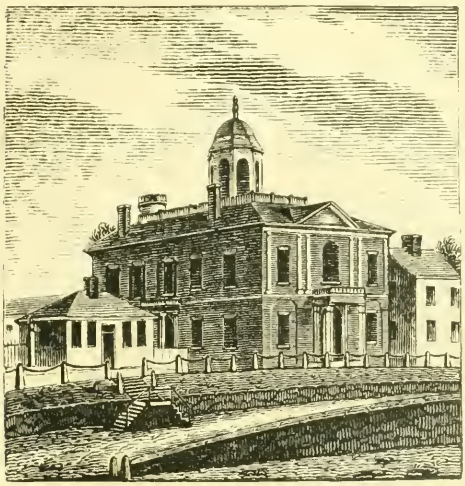
the first printing was executed by Isaiah Thomas in the publication of the "Massachusetts Spy." At a little distance from the city is Lake Quinsigamond, a beautiful lake about seven miles in length, the name of which was also the Indian name of the town, it having been changed to Worcester at its incorporation by the General Court in 1684.

Nearly surrounding Worcester, and running to the lake and for some four miles by its side, is a boulevard, which, although as yet unfinished, will, when completed, afford a delightful drive of from fifteen to eighteen miles, nearly one-fourth of the distance running along by the side of the lake with charming surrounding scenery. The boulevard as projected will have a uniform width of eighty feet.

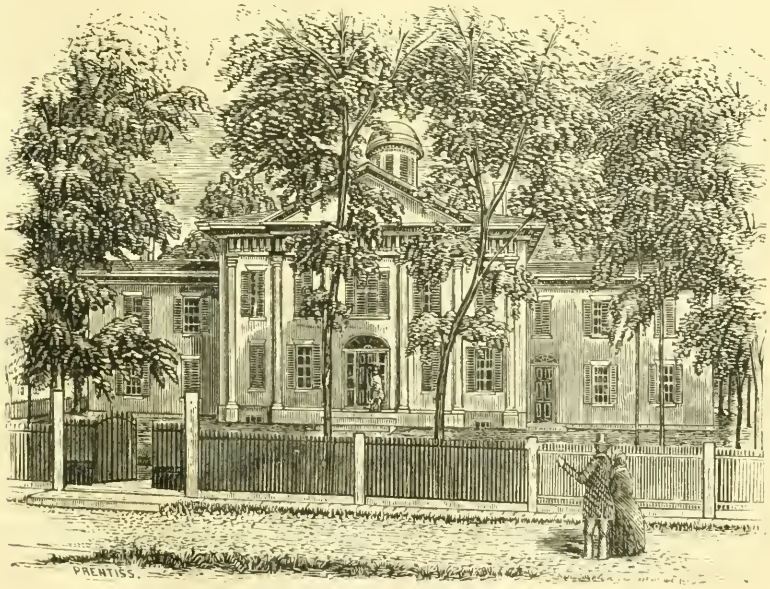
CITY HALL.

The principal growth of the city has been during the last forty years, although Worcester has held an important place in the State for a much longer time. The Boston and Worcester Railroad was incorporated in 1831, and opened new and important facilities for doing business, of which the people were not slow to take advantage. From this time forward things took a more rapid stride. Among the buildings belonging with the earlier history of the place was the Town Hall, which was built in 1825, and which is not materially altered in its appearance, although its name has been changed to City Hall in the meantime. The Mayor and Aldermen, the City Council and municipal officers have rooms in the building.

The courts, as we have said, were established here in 1731, the first being held in the meeting-house. In 1764 the town of Lancaster petitioned the General Court for the removal of some of the courts to that place. The attempt, however, was unsuccessful, and Worcester has remained the seat of the county courts from their establishment. The first court house was built in 1832, a small wooden structure, thirty-six by twenty-six feet, with thirteen feet posts. This was succeeded in 1751 by a larger one, thirty-six by forty feet, which after being used for forty years was removed to the corner of Green and Franklin streets, where it is still standing. In 1801 the older of the two present edifices was built at a cost of about twenty thousand dollars. It now stands a little in the rear of its former location and in a line with the new court house built in 1845, which is of Quincy granite, and was built at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars. We present a cut of the court house built in 1801.

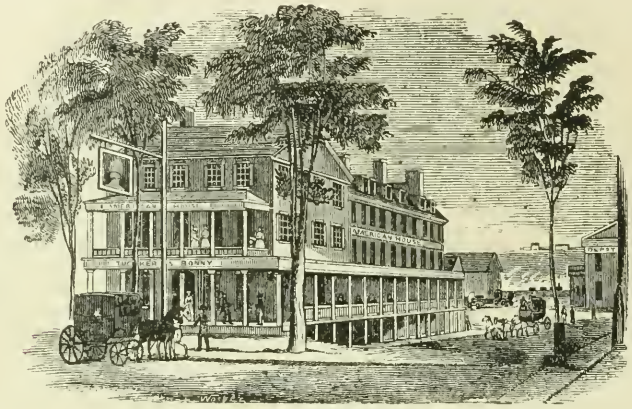


OLD COURT HOUSE.



OLD WORCESTER ACADEMY.

The old Worcester Academy also is presented here as one of the pleasant structures of long ago, and although the Worcester Academy of to-day is quite a different structure, as will be seen by reference to it, yet this old building must occupy a green spot in the memory of those who were in years past familiar with it. The American Hotel shown in our engraving was one of the pleasantest country hotels to be found. Its history will be given further along in our pages in connection with the American House Block.

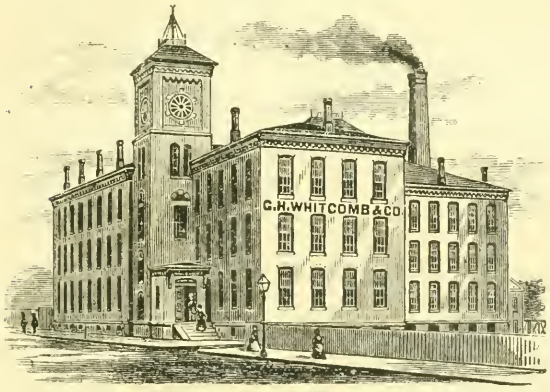


AMERICAN HOUSE.

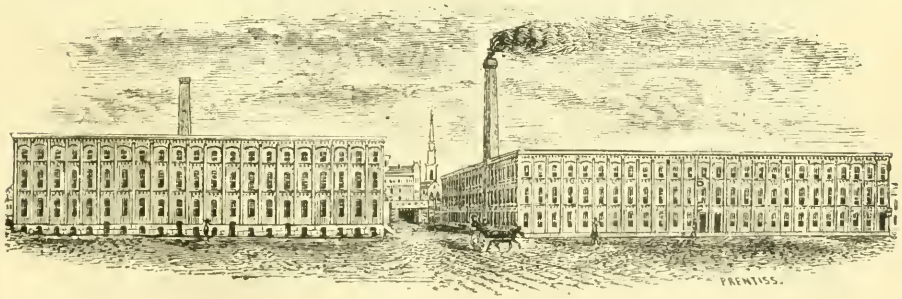
To the manufacturing interests of Worcester, more than to any other source, does she owe the prosperity which she is enjoying. From Rural Cemetery, at the extreme north, to New Worcester, at the south, there is, just a little removed from Main street, almost a continuous line of manufacturing establishments, giving employment to thousands on thousands of her citizens, and adding largely to her material wealth. Nearly without exception these establishments are owned and managed by residents, so that Worcester has all the benefits to be derived from their citizenship.

On entering the city from the north, after passing Rural Cemetery, the eye is attracted to the very extensive wire works of the Washburn & Moen Manufacturing Company, occupying about eight acres nearly covered with buildings. The main building has a front on Grove street extending about seven hundred feet, and a depth of sixty feet. One wing of the building has four stories and the other five, with a French roof. This business was established in 1831 on a small scale, and the old mill first erected is still standing, forming the nucleus to what are now the most extensive works in the world for the production of steel and iron wire. A railroad running from the works connects with all the railroads in Worcester. Iron and steel wire of every description are manufactured,

and wire rods of all grades. A particular feature is clock machinery, gun screw, spiral spring wire, and refined wire to pattern for nice purposes. Wire is made annealed, bright, polished, coppered, galvanized or tinned. Forty tons of all grades of iron and steel wire is the product here of a single day, and with the exception of telegraph wire, which they export, this enormous amount is all disposed of in our own country. The capital of the company is $1,500,000. Philip L. Moen is president; Wm. E. Rice, treasurer, and Charles F. Washburn, secretary. The New York warehouse is at 42 Cliff street. We regret not being able to show a cut of these works. Passing along from here we come to the large envelope factory of G. Henry Whitcomb & Co., on Salisbury street, near Lincoln square. This is one of the largest concerns in the country, having a capacity for producing fully one million envelopes per day. The building shown in our cut was erected in 1873. It is a fine brick structure, three stories high besides the basement and attic, making five floors in all. The main building is one hundred and twelve by fifty feet, with an ell fifty-two by thirty feet. Two towers furnish elevator and stairway facilities, and give a fine appearance to the building. The firm now has thirty-four machines, all of Swift's patent. The factory employs about 100 hands, and uses over two tons of paper and straw-board daily. The annual



G. H. WHITCOMB & CO.'S ENVELOPE FACTORY.

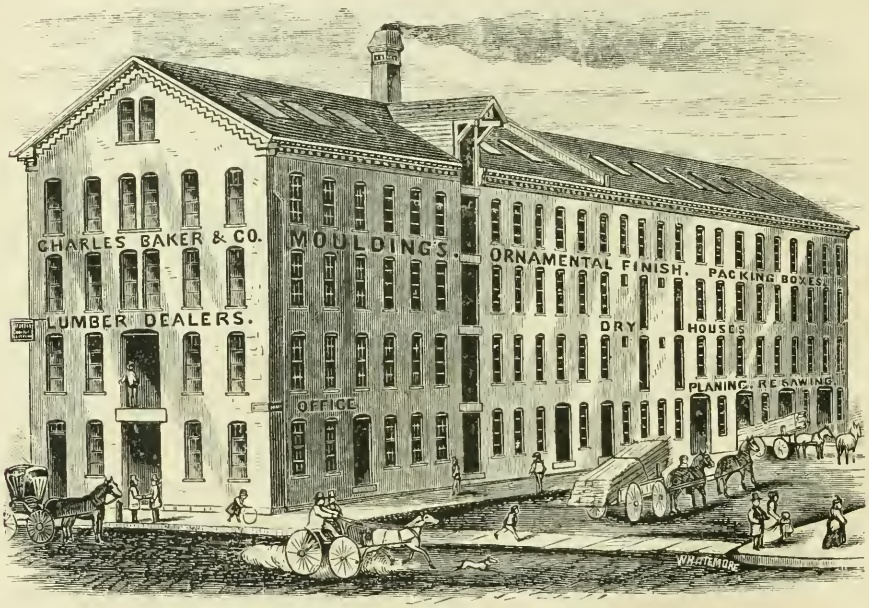


MERRIFIELD'S BUILDINGS.

product is nearly two hundred millions of envelopes. All sales are made direct from the factory. The business was established by G. Henry

Whitcomb in 1864. A machine of their own was invented by men in their employ, and all the machines used here at present have been made in their own factory. David Whitcomb, the senior partner, is treasurer of the Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science, and was formerly the business partner of John Boynton of Templeton, who gave $100,000 to found that institution.

On Union street are the buildings of Wm. T. Merrifield, Esq., who, although retired, yet retains active charge of his rather extensive affairs. These buildings are occupied by a large number of manufacturers of wood and iron work, and cover over about two acres of ground. We have not been furnished with any items regarding these occupants, and

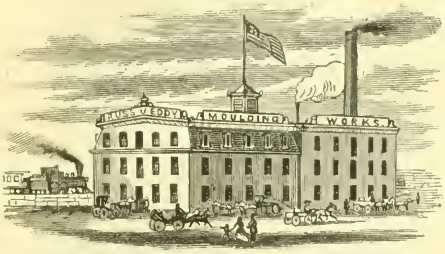


CHAS. BAKER & CO.'S WORKS.

can therefore only mention some of the prominent ones, among whom are H. A. Lee, Esq., who has large moulding machine works; Jerome Wheelock, Esq., manufacturer of steam engines, and Mr. Henry F. Edwards, who does a large business in ornamental iron work for roofs, sidewalks and terraces. The iron work which ornaments the top and sides of the Grand Union Depot was manufactured at this place.

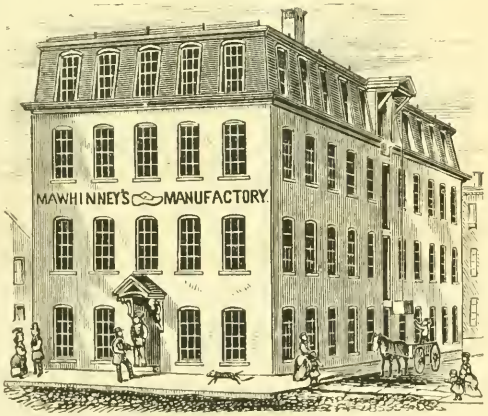
The large planing mills of Charles Baker & Co. adjoin these buildings, and these are but a small part of the buildings occupied by this firm. Engaged largely in planing and moulding, they are also engaged in the lumber trade, in which they do more than any other concern in the city.

Near by are the extensive works of Rice, Barton & Fales, and on Manchester street is Wesson's rifle factory, conducted by Frank Wesson, Esq., one of the veteran fire-arm manufacturers, who furnished many arms for the government during the rebellion. Mr. Wesson sent arms for exhibition to the Vienna Exposition, also. These arms are known throughout the country, and almost throughout the world, and are sold by agents in all the leading cities. Mr. Wesson is also the manufacturer of the Creedmoor rifle, which has made the best target at long range (800 yards) of any rifle on record. This arm is very popular.



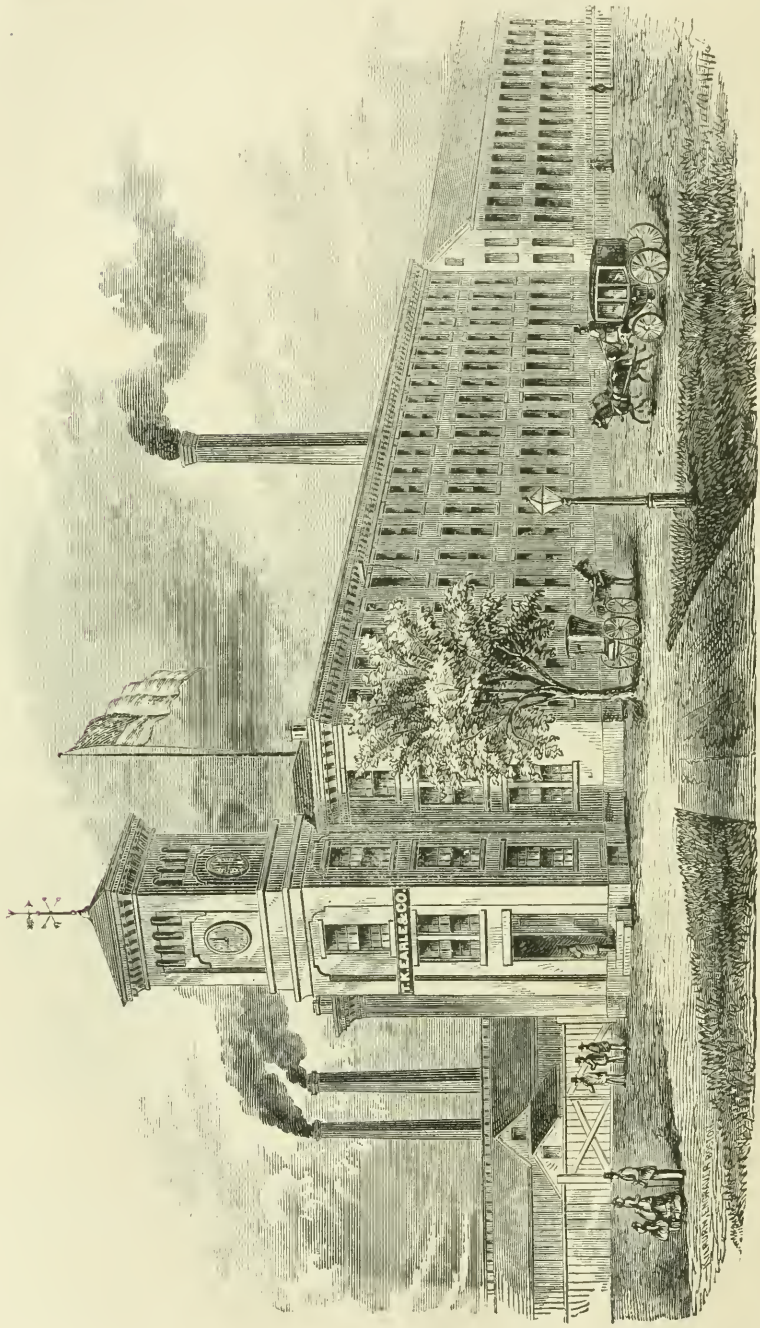
The moulding establishment of Russ, Eddy & Co. is also located on Manchester street, occupying a building forty by one hundred feet in size, and run by a forty horse-power engine. Seven hundred and fifty thousand feet of black walnut lumber, brought from Indiana, is converted by these parties into picture mouldings and frames in a year, and is then sent out again to nearly every city in the country. The building is three stories in height and affords employment for about sixty hands.

The Last manufactory of Messrs. Samuel Mawhinney & Co., of which we show a cut, is located on Church street, leading from Mechanic to Front. These parties do a large business in manufacturing lasts for boots and shoes, and are known wherever these goods are used.



MAWHINNEY'S LAST FACTORY.

Below the extensive depot now in process of building by the Boston and Albany Railroad Corporation is the Washburn Iron Works, sometimes called "Pandemonium" from the lurid light which illumines the heavens at night when the workmen are employed in handling the "red hot" material which is constantly running through the works. The writer solicited some items from which to make a little article, and was informed that there were none of importance to give. "We take an old boot," said the person applied to, "and put on a



T. K. EARLE & CO.'S CARD CLOTHING FACTORY.

tap," the meaning of which no doubt is that the works are largely engaged in making over and repairing rails, car wheels, etc., for railroad corporations. A very extensive business is carried on here, and a large amount of capital employed.

Bradley's car works, Osgood Bradley, proprietor, are located on Grafton street. These works were established in 1834, and are the oldest of the kind in America. Every description of palace, sleeping, passenger and freight cars are made here, and, when the demand for work is large, one hundred and fifty hands are employed. The average number, however, is about one hundred and twenty. The buildings cover about two acres.

On Grafton street is located T. K. Earle & Co.'s card clothing establishment, in connection with which there is quite an interesting history. By reference to the American Cyclopædia we find that the first machine card clothing made in this country was manufactured by Pliny Earle of Leicester for Samuel Slater of Pawtucket, the originator of cotton factories in America. Having visited England, and under great difficulties secured plans for his machinery, Mr. Slater proceeded to build it under still greater difficulties. At last the machinery was completed, but it was useless without card clothing. It was impossible to procure it from England, as she claimed all such things as her exclusive right and guarded them with a jealous eye. The reputation of Mr. Earle's mechanical mills had reached him, and he proceeded to Leicester, sought Mr. Earle and made known his wants. Mr. Earle promised that he should be supplied; but the process was long and tedious. A few sides of leather were procured from a country tannery, from which the sheets were prepared to receive the wire. Every hole was punched with a single needle, and every tooth inserted with the fingers. When we realize that there were sixty thousand points to the square foot, and forty square feet to each card, we can form some idea of his labor; and thus the first cotton mill in America was made a success. From this time Mr. Earle devoted his life to the production of card clothing, making from time to time many improvements in the manufacture. The business has continued in the hands of representatives of his family, the present one, Mr. T. K. Earle, receiving the control in 1843, since which time he has devoted his energies and skill to its development. Many important improvements have been made, and foremost to-day in the ranks of manufacturers of this article is this old and extensive establishment. To show the increase of the business, we will state that in 1790 fifty sides of leather would supply the entire demand; in 1843 the Earle factory used but five sides per day, while in 1874 the factory of T. K. Earle & Co. alone use one hundred sides per day.

The envelope factory of Hill, Devoe & Co. is also located here. This business was established by Dr. Hawes, who was the inventor

of the envelope folding machine which he used. The business has been continued through several hands, and in August, 1865, Messrs. Hill, Devoe & Co. bought it of the popular concern of Trumbull & Hartshorn, and at present, with the newest and most approved machinery, have a capacity for making eight hundred thousand envelopes per day. The largest week's product ever reached was about five millions. The concern is a very strong one, and has a list of customers embracing the finest houses in the country. No traveling agents are employed. No goods are sold on commission, nine-tenths of the whole product being sold direct from the factory. This is one of the secrets of the success of Worcester manufacturers, that they call customers here to buy, instead of being obliged to solicit. This concern is about building a large manufactory, with a capacity for producing from one and a half to two million envelopes per day.

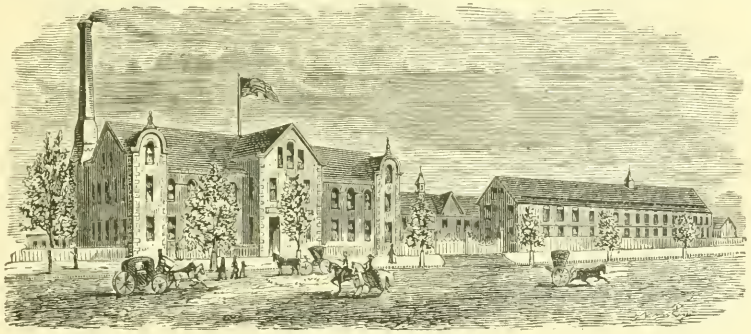
J. H. & G. M. WALKER'S BOOT MANUFACTORY.

Near these works is the large boot manufactory of Messrs. J. H. & G. M. Walker, the senior member or which, Mr. J. H. Walker, is well known as a representative man in his trade all over the country. The manufacture of boots and shoes is not only one of the most prominent industries in Worcester, but it is also one of the most important, employing, as it does, a large number of men in producing the goods, and requiring a large investment of capital. Mr. Walker is also connected with the wholesale leather concern of Walker, Oakley & Co., Chicago, Ill.

On Green street we find Mr. George Crompton's loom works, through whom only the right to use the celebrated Crompton looms can be secured in all this part of the country. These looms are a very valuable invention, and have yielded a large amount to the proprietor.

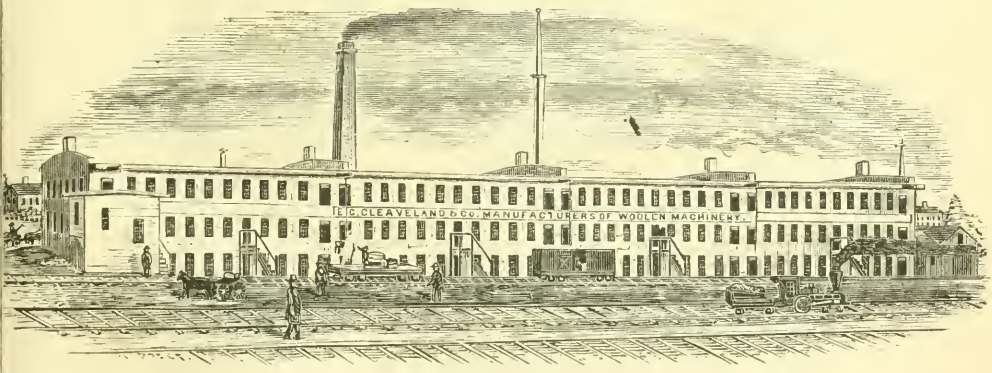
The Junction Shop, so called, is near the Junction depot, where a

variety of extensive manufacturers of machinery are located, while further up and just above the Junction depot is the fire-arms establishment of Messrs. Forehand & Wadsworth. The manufacture of fire-arms is another of the prominent industries, among which the leading and by considerably the largest is that of these gentlemen. They manufacture all sizes of arms, from the large army to the small pocket revolver, and



CROMPTON LOOM WORKS.

are also large manufacturers of breech-loading shot-guns and breech-loading rifles. Their arms are very popular, and are sent to all parts of the country, besides many being exported. This manufactory is one of the oldest in the country, having been established in 1835 by the late

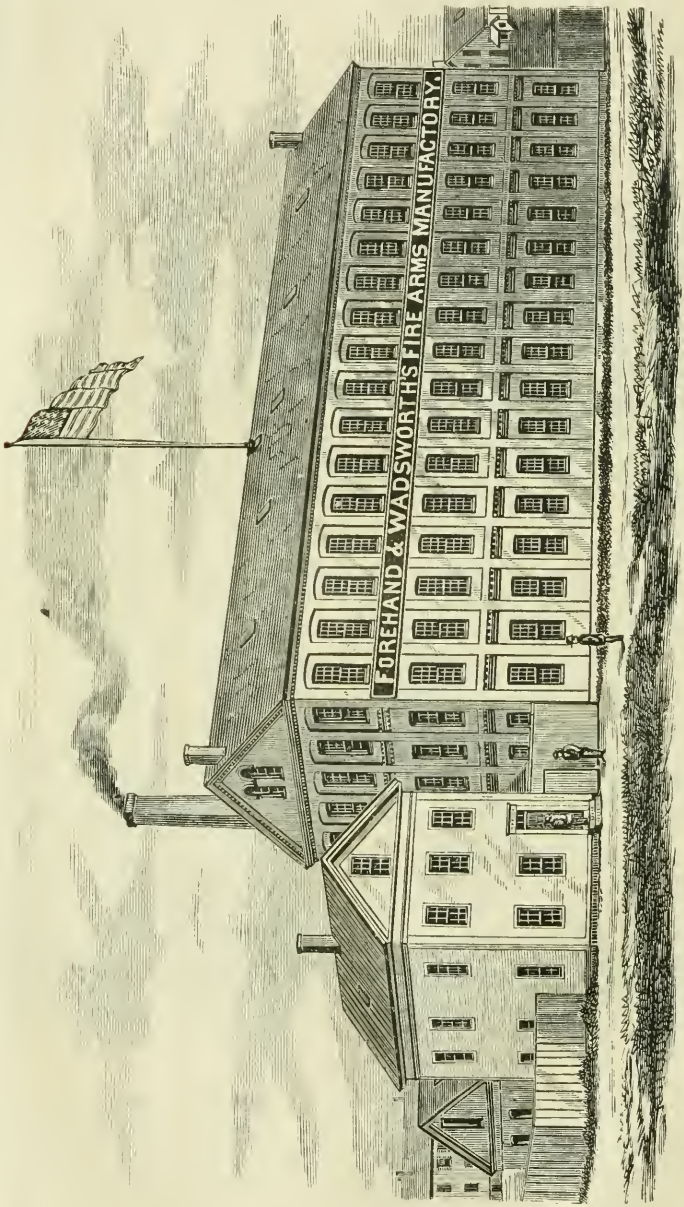


JUNCTION SHOP.

Ethan Allen, he prosecuting the business with different parties until 1871, when, at his decease, it passed into the hands of the present owners.

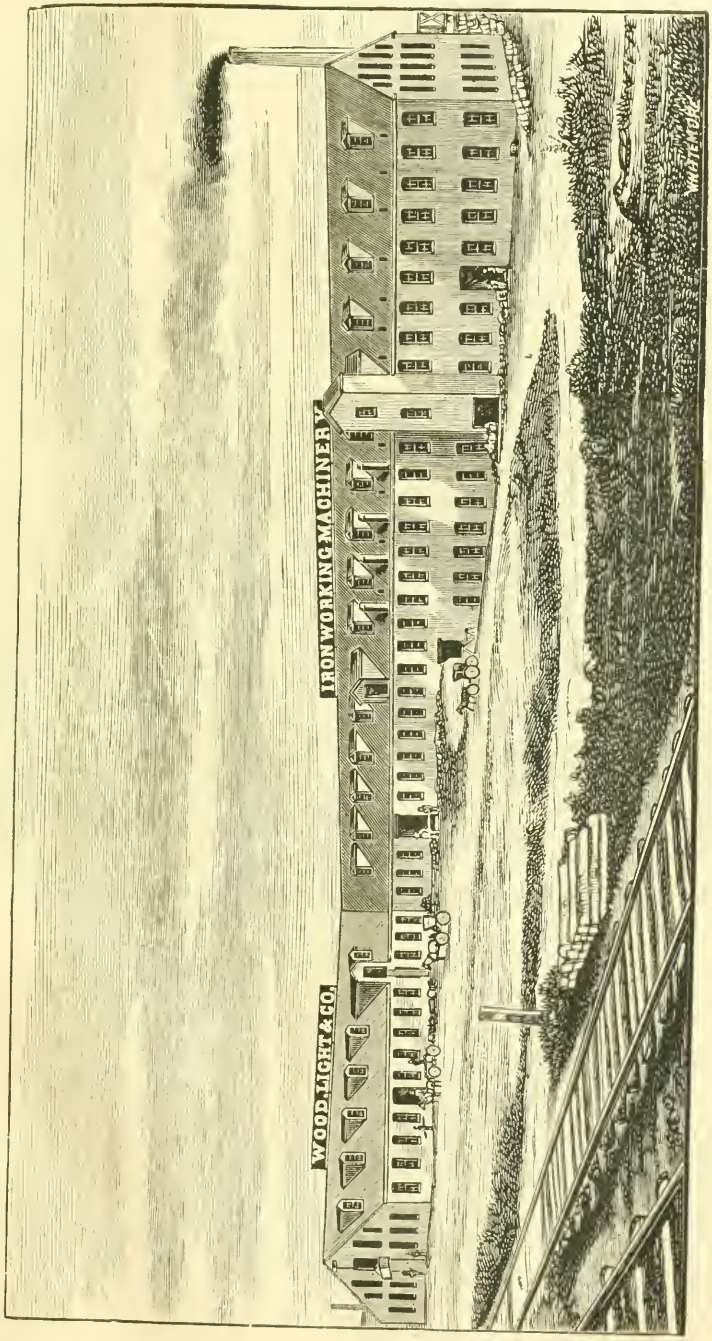
Still further along are the works of the Wood & Light Machine Co., established in 1842 and incorporated in 1872. The corporation has a capital stock of $200,000, and do an extensive business in iron-working machinery, the principal warehouse being in New York.

The Worcester Steam Boiler Works, on the line of the Providence and

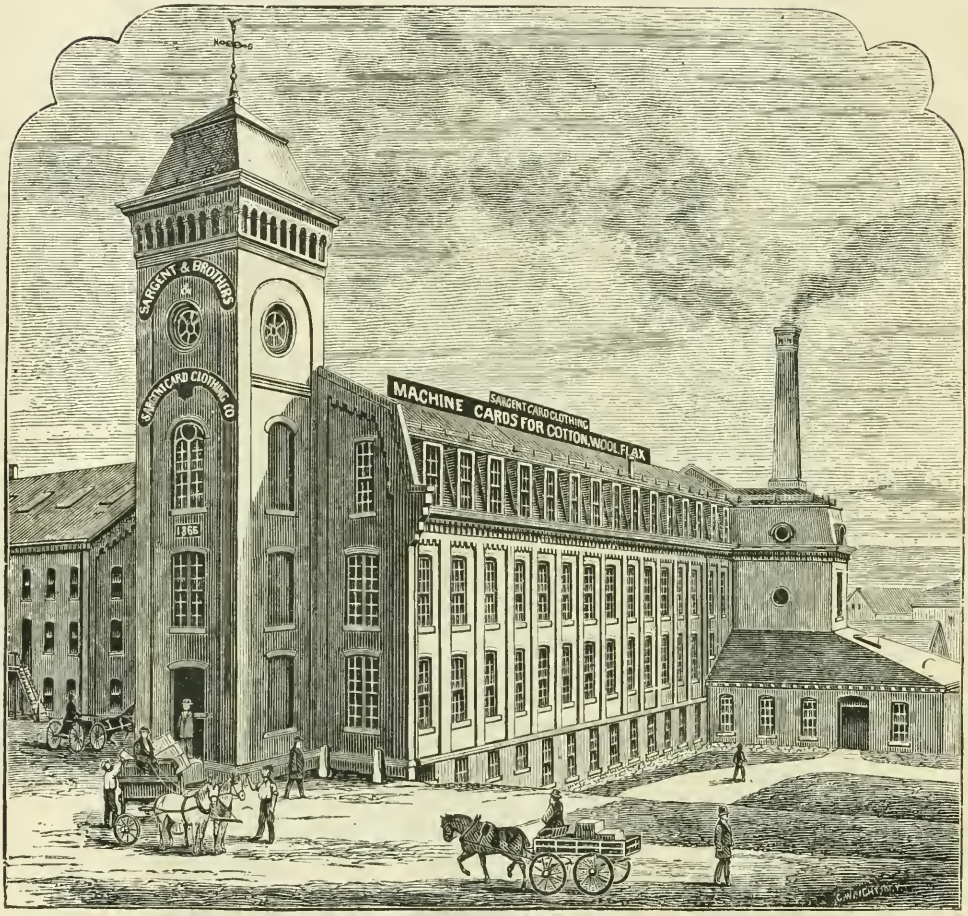


FOREHAND & WADSWORTH'S FIRE-ARMS MANUFACTORY.

Worcester Railroad, occupy about an acre of land. The buildings were erected in 1871. This is the only boiler manufactory in the city. The proprietors of the works, Messrs. Stewart & Allen, are pursuing a very successful business, and their boilers have attained a fine reputation.



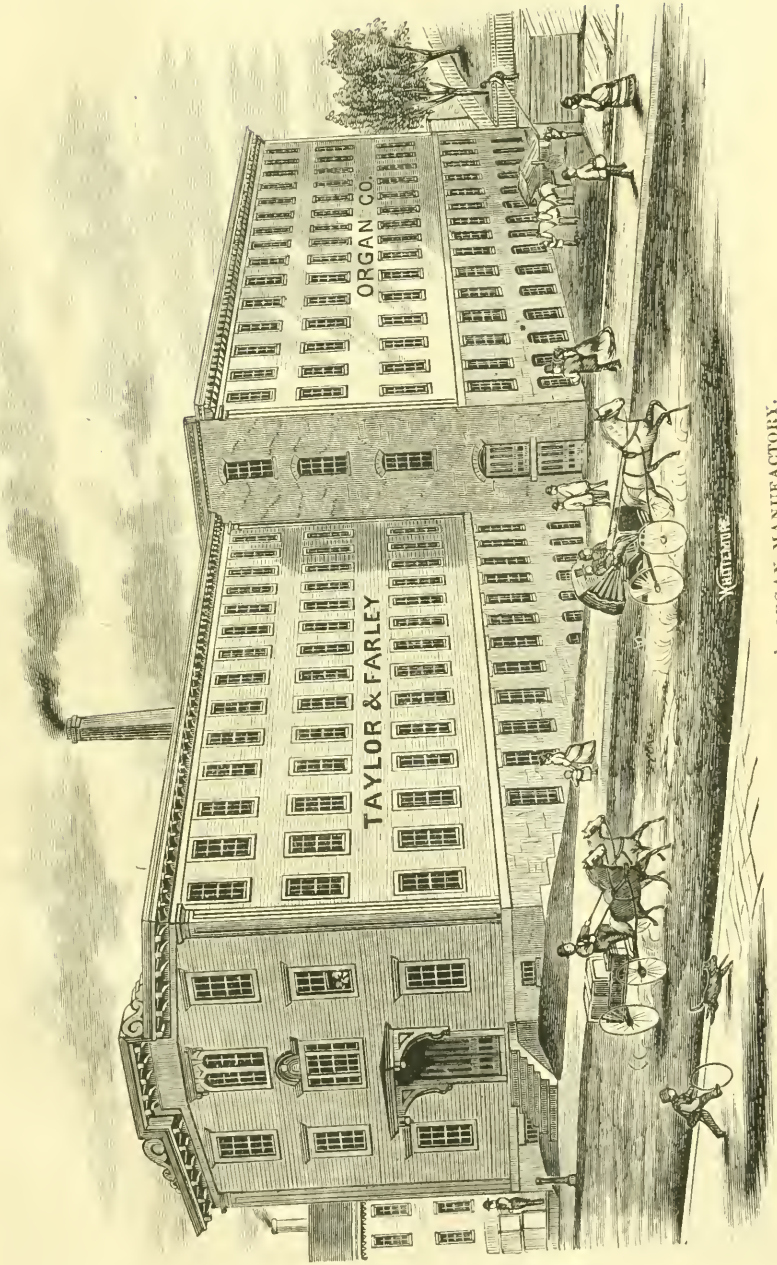
WOOD, LIGHT & CO. MACHINE WORKS.



SARGENT CARD CLOTHING CO.'S FACTORY.

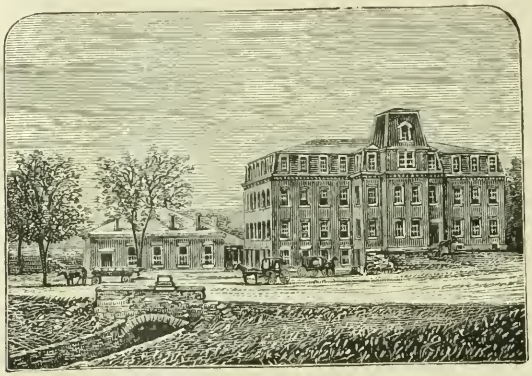
Within sight, and on Southbridge street, the Sargent Card Clothing Company's establishment is located, of which Mr. Edward Sargent is president. The manufacture of card clothing is a very important branch of industry. At this establishment there are about 250 card setting machines, turning out about 600 square feet of machine cards and 300 dozen pairs of hand cards each day. These cards are sent all over the country and into the British Provinces.

From here, passing up Hermon street, we have several important iron and steel works and the factory of the Taylor & Farley Organ Company, who do an extensive business in manufacturing organs, and whose instruments have attained to a very high reputation in musical circles all over the country.



TAYLOR & FARLEY'S ORGAN MANUFACTORY.

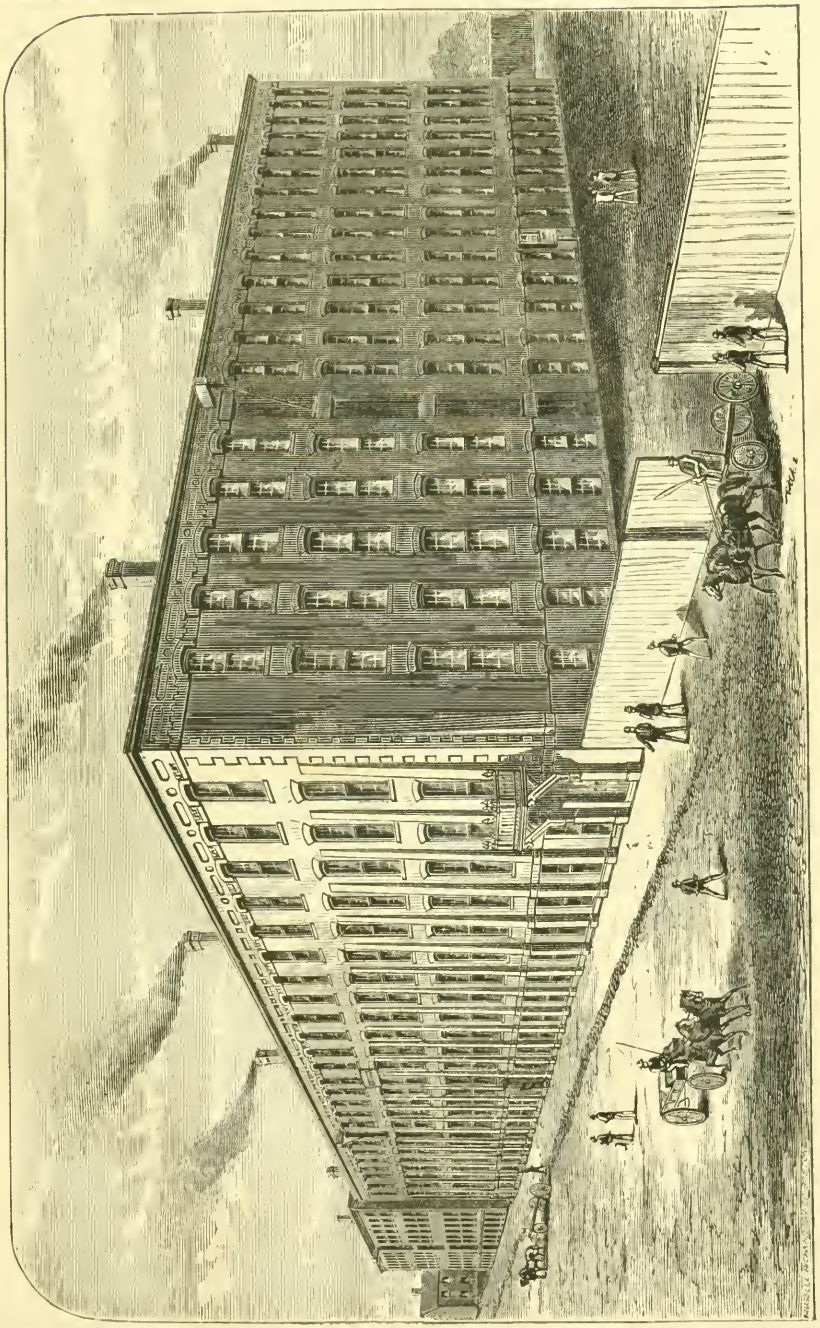
At New Worcester are large wrench factories of the Coes Brothers, the oldest of whom, Mr. Loring Coes, formerly senior member of the firm of L. & A. G. Coes, who was the original inventor of the screw wrench, has erected a large factory in the southern outskirts, fifty by one hundred feet, with a front projection thirty-four by sixteen feet, the ground floor of which is used for the office. There is also a forge shop fifty feet square, and both of these are run by a sixty-seven horse-power, iron-cased turbine water-wheel, in a wheel-house between the two structures. They own three reservoirs, containing together four hundred acres, all utilized so as to furnish power for machinery. The wrenches are made of Burden's best wrought iron, and are sold over the whole civilized world. A quarter of a mile away they also have a shop for the manufacture of machine cutters, hay-cutter knives, die stock, shear blades and strips, planing machine knives, and edge tools generally. This building is seventy-five by fifty feet, with two stories and a basement, and is also run by water-power, and together with a saw-mill and carpenter shop, both run in the same manner, comprise the extensive works of L. Coes & Co., who produce from fifteen to twenty thousand wrenches each month, besides a large amount of edge tools. These works have the most beautiful surroundings of any in the city, consisting of groves, gentle hills, green-sward and clear running water. No less beautiful are the water surroundings of the large manufacturing works of Messrs. Curtis & Marble, situated also at New Worcester; and these two establishments, with their surroundings, will well repay the trouble of going there from the city proper. Horse cars, connecting, run every fifteen minutes, and bring this part of the city into easy communication.



L. COES & CO.'S FACTORY.

We will now return to the city proper and give a description and view of one more extensive business concern.

One of the most recent additions to the many manufacturing establishments for which Worcester is famed, is the series of buildings occupied by the Ames Plow Company, for the manufacture of agricultural implements and machines. The architectural features of this immense establishment are such as to attract the attention of the most casual observer.



AMES PLOW COMPANY'S WORKS.

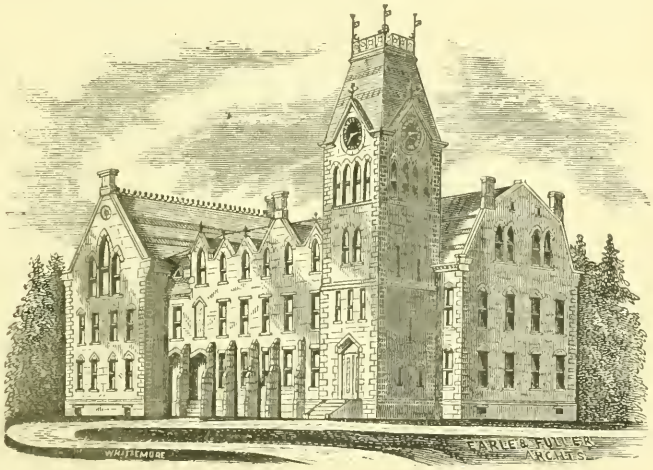
Located on Prescott street, the main building (of brick) consists of three stories and basement, walls sixteen and twelve inches thick, supported by buttresses extending to the second story. The west wing is two hundred by fifty feet, the east wing one hundred and seventy-five by fifty feet. The other buildings consist of the pattern shop, foundry, blacksmith shop, grinding and polishing shops, coal house and steel rooms, boiler and engine house, storehouses and sheds. The latest improvements are adopted, which give every convenience for the work to be carried on, and ample security against fire. The Ames Plow Company are the successors of the firm of Ruggles, Nourse & Co., who were among the earliest to engage in the manufacture of Agricultural implements in this country on an extended scale. The present company was incorporated in 1864, and they have been not less celebrated than their predecessors for the excellence of their work and their enterprise in giving to agriculturists everywhere the most approved implements and machines. Articles of their manufacture can be found in every part of the civilized world, and it would be a matter of astonishment to many to know the extent of the orders which they are often called upon to fill. In addition to this large establishment they have another of almost equal capacity at Ayer, Mass. The principal office of the company is in Boston, occupying the entire upper portion of the far-famed "Quincy Market Building." The New York branch is located at No. 53 Beekman street.

INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING.

Worcester is famed, and justly so, for the number and quality of her schools. To her liberal patronage of these, perhaps, more than to any other source, does she owe the large number of representative men whom she has sent forth to the nation and state, and whom she holds as citizens. Prominent and praiseworthy among these is the Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science.

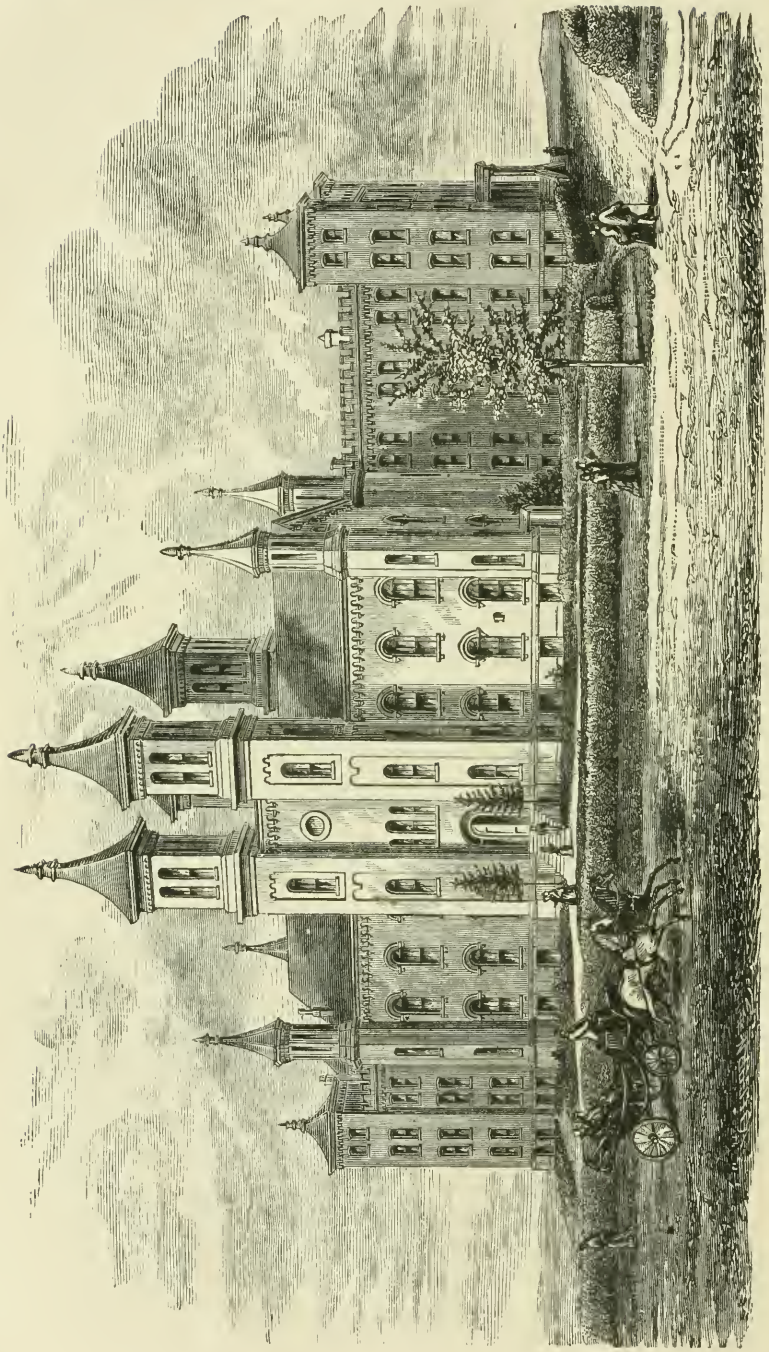
This Technical School is one of the characteristic institutions of the city. Its object is to provide a course of instruction in the various branches of applied science, especially mechanics, which shall enable the graduate to enter at once upon the duties of active life. Of the seventy-three members of the four classes already graduated, sixty are occupying honorable and lucrative positions, for which the discipline of the school has especially fitted them. Founded by John Boynton, of Templeton, as a free school for the county of Worcester, the institution has been further and munificently endowed by Ichabod Washburn and Stephen Salisbury of Worcester, by the city of Worcester, and the State of Massachusetts. In consideration of the gift of money from the State, twenty students,

residents of the State outside of the county, are entitled to free tuition. Students are admitted from any other place upon payment of a small tuition fee. The general direction of the institute is in the hands of a Board of Trustees, which includes some of the ablest and most influential citizens of Worcester county, as follows: Hon. Stephen Salisbury, President; Hon. D. Waldo Lincoln, Secretary; David Whitcomb, Esq., Treasurer; Rev. Seth Sweetser, D. D., Hon. George F. Hoar, Charles H. Morgan, Esq., Philip L. Moen, Esq., Rev. Edward H. Hall, Hon. Lucius J. Knowles, Rev. B. D. Marshall, D. D. On the part of the Board of Education, Hon. William W. Rice; *ex-officio*, His Hon. Clark Jillson. The direct administration and control is confided to a faculty of singularly able and enthusiastic men, as follows: Charles O. Thompson, A. M., Principal and Professor of Chemistry; George I. Alden, B. S., Professor



BOYNTON HALL.

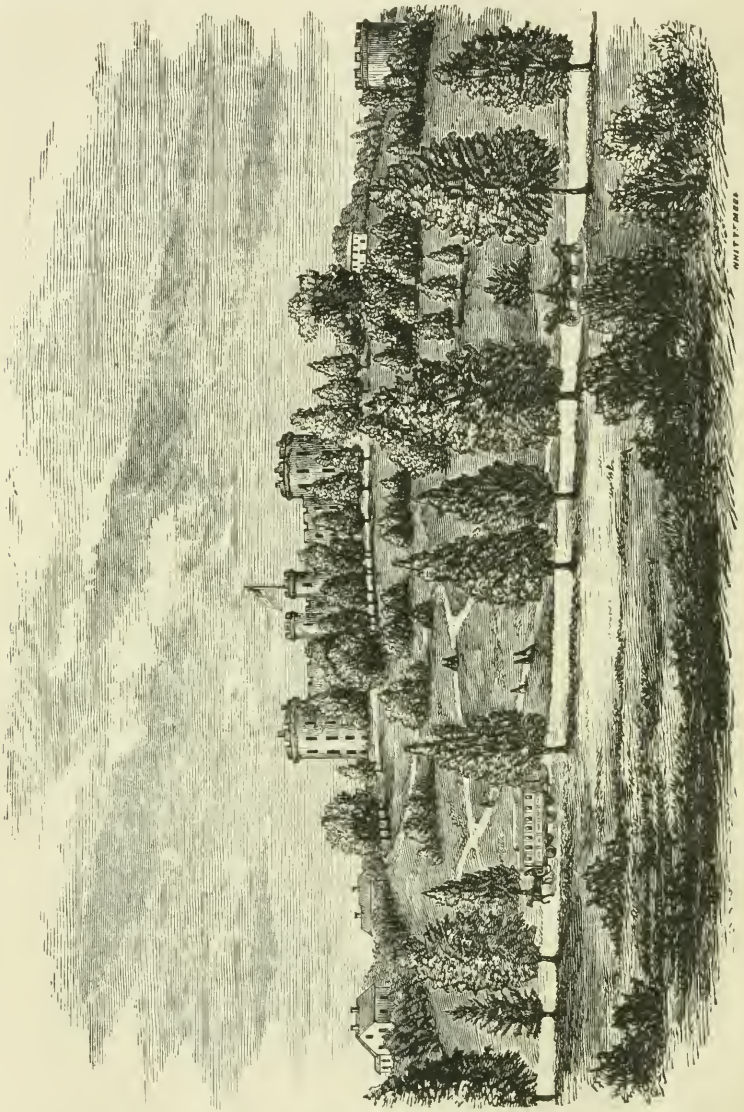
of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics; George E. Gladwin, Professor of Drawing; John E. Sinclair, A. M., Professor of Higher Mathematics and Civil Engineering; Alonzo S. Kimball, A. M., Professor of Physics; Edward P. Smith, A. M., Professor of Modern Languages; Thomas E. N. Eaton, A. M., Junior Professor of Mathematics; Milton P. Higgins, B. S., Superintendent of Machine Shop. The institute occupies two buildings, Boynton Hall, shown in our cut, and the Washburn Machine Shop. Boynton Hall is a commodious and elegant granite building, one hundred and forty-six feet long by sixty-one feet wide, built by the citizens of Worcester. It contains a chapel capable of seating four hundred persons; a lecture room, in the rear of which are a storeroom and private laboratory, with store and balance rooms, furnished with all the tables, re-agents, etc., necessary for the students' use; a laboratory, all fully equipped for



WORCESTER ACADEMY.

instruction in chemistry; a physical laboratory, furnished with power from the shop, and adapted to the use of students in the practical solution of problems in physics, containing Willis' system of apparatus, complete working machines to illustrate the movements of the link and valve, C. H. Morgan's machine for showing the correct form of cams and their movements, models of bridges, thermic, optical and galvanic apparatus to meet every want; two commodious drawing rooms, one for free-hand, the other for mechanical drawing, with model rooms, where are the best French and English plates, manuscript drawings, models, casts, etc.; an architect's room, a designer's room, commodious recitation rooms and office, and a library and reading room. There is also a full set of instruments for the use of the civil engineers. The Washburn Machine Shop affords unusual facilities to students in this department for obtaining a practical knowledge of the use of tools and the management of machines. The shop is equipped with the best tools and machinery for the working of iron and wood, and is managed, like any other shop, by a superintendent, who employs a sufficient number of skilled workmen. The students spend their practice hours in it as apprentices. Besides the general training in drawing, the mechanical engineers have special instruction during senior year in making working drawings of machines, determining the strength, dimensions and proper proportions of machines from numerical specifications, and in the laws of motors. The determination on the part of the superintendent to maintain the highest standard of workmanship has so far been successfully carried out, and is undoubtedly the only way to fulfill the design of the shop. The speed-lathe, designed and built there, took the gold medal at the Baltimore Fair in 1869, and both the engine lathe and the speed lathe took first premiums at the Fair of the American Institute, held October, 1870, in New York, and at the Fair of the Worcester North Agricultural Society, held in September, 1873. At the last named fair the grinding machine took a first premium. An advertisement of the work of the shop is found on our outside back cover page. We have given extended space to a description of this institution, from the fact that its doors admit young men to *practical* educational advantages, and when they go forth they are prepared by the practice acquired while students to *compel* the avenues of success to open before them.

Worcester Academy, a cut of which is shown, was established in 1834. It is located on a delightful eminence called Union Hill, and is just sufficiently separated from the business portion of the city to offer to the student excellent advantages for study and improvement. The Board of Instruction is composed of the following gentlemen: J. D. Smith, A. B., Principal, Teacher of Latin and Greek; Rev. Sylvester Burnham, A. M., Teacher of Greek, German and History; Nathan Leavenworth,



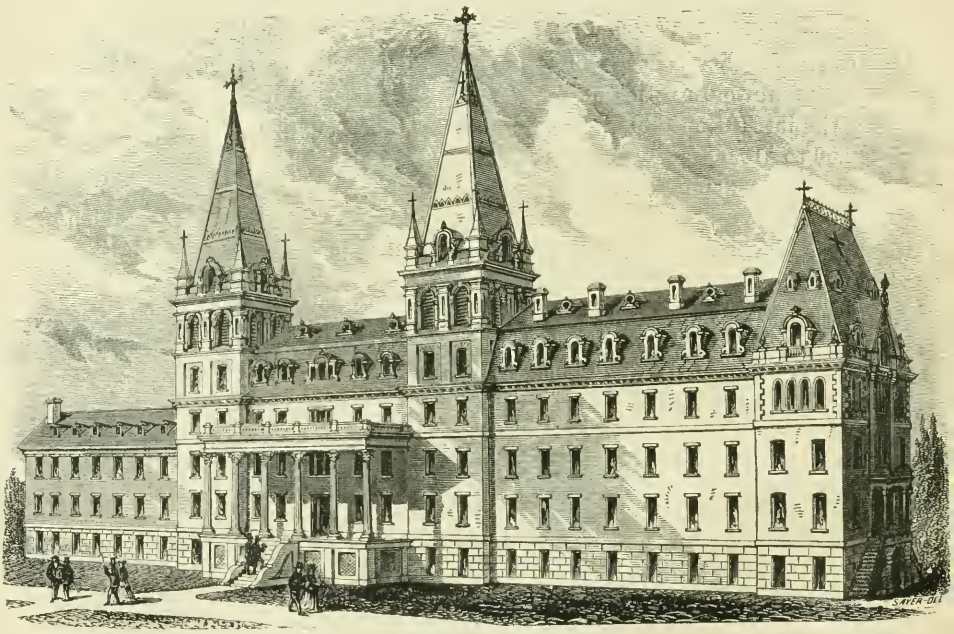
OREAD INSTITUTE.

A. B., Teacher of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Miss A. H. Pulcifer, Preceptress, Teacher of Latin and French; Miss Sarah E. Fisk, Teacher of English Branches; George E. Gladwin, Teacher of Painting and Drawing; William H. Daniell, Teacher of Vocal Music; Edwin B. Story, Teacher of the Organ and Piano; Miss Emma E. Crane, Teacher of the Piano and Vocal Music; Mrs. M. J. Sumner, Teacher of Elocution; George W. Thompson, Teacher of Penmanship. The buildings are

elegant and commodious, having spacious recitation rooms, chapel and dining hall, bathing rooms and other modern conveniences. The departments of instruction are: A College Preparatory course, in which the instruction is confined to the Latin and Greek classics and such other studies as are necessary in preparing for college, which covers four years; an Academic course for ladies and gentlemen, which is intended as a course of training preparatory to professional study or business life, for those who do not propose to enter college, in which students can take Greek, if they desire, and which also covers four years; an English course, which consists of English studies only, furnishing a full and complete preparation for boys who intend to enter technical schools, and instructions in bookkeeping by single and double entry, which covers four years, and a Preparatory course, covering one year only, in which students are prepared for the College Preparatory and the Academic courses. The academy is easy of access by railroad from all directions, and commutation tickets are sold to students at greatly reduced rates. Students can board at the institution table at $3.00 per week, and the rent of rooms is from $2.50 to $10.00 per term, according to location. There have been fifteen scholarships endowed by various parties for the benefit of such students as bear a good moral character, whose pecuniary necessities render them in need of such assistance, and who attain to promising rank in their studies during the first six weeks.

The Oread Institute was founded in 1848, by Hon. Eli Thayer. For nearly thirty years it has been one of the most celebrated and popular schools for young ladies in New England. The course of instruction is most thorough and extensive, the demands for graduation being about the same as those of Vassar College. The number of pupils has not varied much from one hundred during the last six or eight years. About one-half of them are boarders. The number entered last year was ninety-four. The graduating class of the present year will number twelve or fourteen. The building is of stone, is exceedingly capacious, and in its form and style of architecture resembles the feudal castles of the Middle Ages. It is of an oblong figure, having towers in the centre, and terminating in two large towers at either end, giving to the facade a highly picturesque and unique appearance. Though it has been built only about thirty years, it looks a thousand years old. The numerous visitors who come to view the place almost invariably inquire for what it was intended when built, as if its present use, viz., a boarding school for young ladies, could not have been its original design. It was, however, built for this purpose at the outset, and the very high reputation which the school has enjoyed for more than a quarter of a century attests the fact that there is nothing incompatible between a castle of the middle ages and a modern young ladies' seminary. Although presenting a somewhat gloomy exterior

to the eye of the stranger, its compartments within are found to be airy, cheerful and pleasant. The site is an eminence, rural and picturesque, and commands an extensive and delightful view of the entire city and surrounding country. The grounds are ample, are ornamented with a variety of trees, and afford retirement for the out-door exercise and enjoyment of the ladies. The Faculty of Instruction is composed of a male principal, Professor Harris R. Greene, and twelve assistant teachers. The course of instruction embraces, in the academic and collegiate departments, four years, and has the reputation of being exceedingly thorough and comprehensive. The following, from a member of the examining committee, has reference to this point: "The course of instruction corresponds with that of the best ladies' seminaries in the

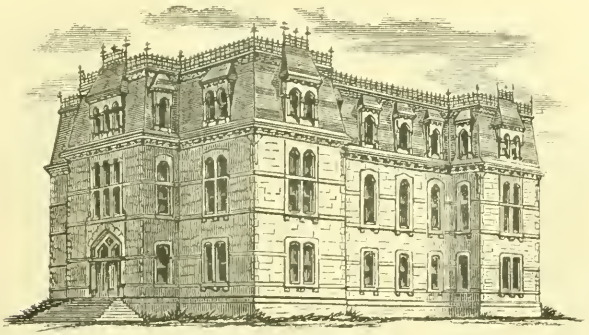


COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS.

country, including the sciences, literature and the fine arts. Its peculiar excellence, however, is in the departments of language and literature, in which the principal is pre-eminent as a scholar and teacher. With nearly an hundred pupils, it is, nevertheless, in a remarkable degree, a free but orderly Christian home." The expenses per year are a little more than three hundred dollars, not including music and painting and the modern languages. During the last ten years about eighty young ladies have graduated from the institution.

The College of the Holy Cross was founded in the year 1843 by the

Rt. Rev. Benedict Fenwick, Bishop of Boston, and was given by him to the Fathers of the Society of Jesus. In 1865 it was incorporated by the Legislature of the State, with power and authority "to confer such degrees as are conferred by any college in this commonwealth, except medical degrees." It stands on one of the beautiful heights of Worcester, whence a charming view is enjoyed of the city and surrounding country. The objects of the institution are to prepare youth for a professional or for a commercial state of life. The course of studies embraces in its whole extent a period of seven years, of which three are given to the Preparatory and Junior classes, and the remainder to the Senior. The study of the French language is a part of the college course. The other modern languages may be taught if required, but, together with music, drawing, etc., necessitates extra charges. The faculty is composed of Rev. Joseph B. O'Hagan, S. J., President, and fourteen professors as assistants.

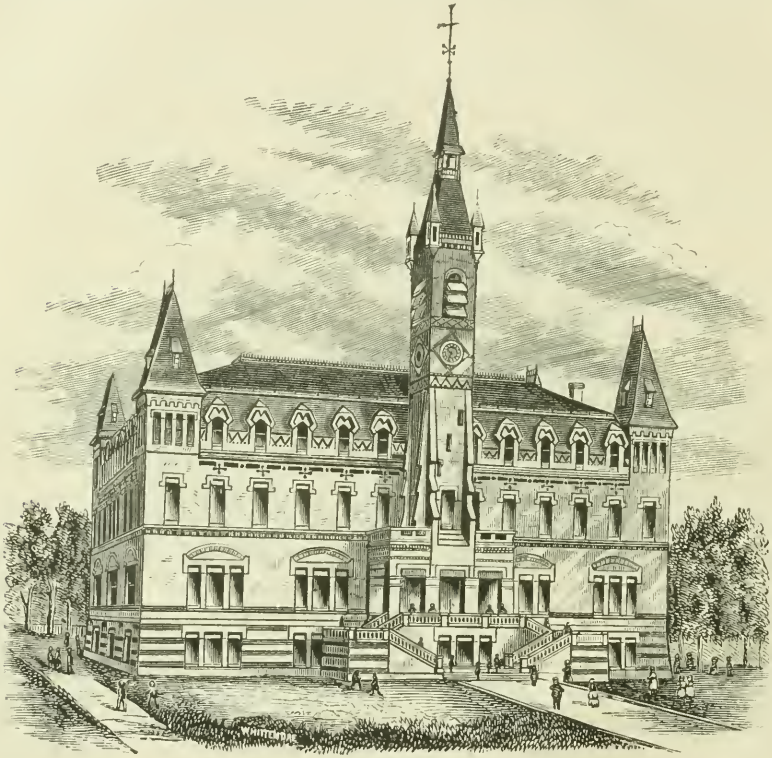


STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

The State Normal School, a handsome stone building, stands on a beautiful eminence, which commands an extensive and varied view of city, village and country for many miles around. Like the other Normal schools of the State, this institution is maintained with a single object in view, namely, the thorough preparation of teachers for our public schools. No young men are admitted under seventeen years of age, no young ladies under sixteen. The teachers in the Normal School are as follows: E. H. Russell, Principal; Charles T. Adams, Rebecca Jones, Florence Foster, Carrie W. Stevens. The institution being new, the first (lowest) class only has been admitted. It consists of sixty-nine members, selected by written examinations from eighty-seven applicants. Should the school fill up its four classes at this rate, the capacity of the building will be severely taxed. Pupils receive instruction and the use of text books free, that is, upon the understanding that they mean to teach in Massachusetts public schools after graduating. Applicants for admission are rigidly

examined in elementary studies at the beginning of each semi-annual session in September and February, and pupils are not admitted at any other time.

The High School building occupies a lot containing 31,672 square feet, extending from Walnut to Maple streets. The building is one hundred and thirty by eighty-seven feet, has nine school rooms, each about thirty feet square, and is designed to accommodate about five hundred pupils.



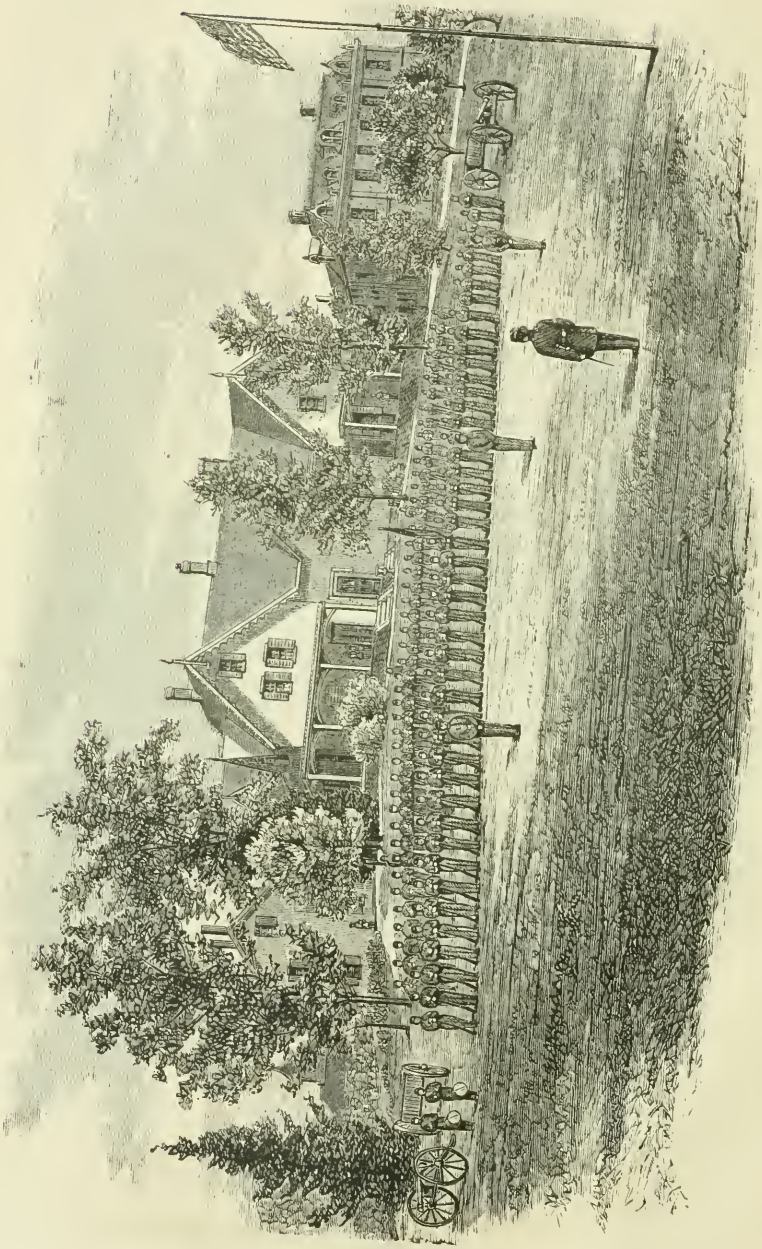
HIGH SCHOOL.

There is also a large library room on the first floor; a lecture room and chemical laboratory; a room for philosophical apparatus, and the principal's room, which communicates with all parts of the building by bells and speaking-tubes. The second story contains private rooms for teachers and two recitation rooms in addition to those mentioned. The third story is occupied by the large hall, seventy-six by sixty-two feet. In the basement is a gymnasium. The bell in the tower, costing $1000, was presented by William Dickinson, Esq.; the clock and the twelve smaller ones in the building, costing $1000, were a gift from Hon. Edward Earle, and one of Chickering's grand pianos, costing $1200, was given by Hon.

Stephen Salisbury. The cost of the building was $180,000, exclusive of land. There are ten teachers employed, three males and seven females.

There are in the city thirty-four school houses, with room for sittings for 7951 pupils, the value of which property, including school apparatus, etc., amounts to $987,974. The number of teachers employed in 1873 was 176; the number of pupils registered during the year, 9990.; the average number belonging to the schools, however, was but 6725; the number registered in the High School was 461, and average number belonging, 290.3. The total expenditure for the support of schools was $151,676.44.

The Highland Military Academy is situated on one of the hills just on the outskirts of the city. Our cut shows a front view of but part of the buildings belonging to this institution, which was established A. D. 1856, by Mr. C. B. Metcalf, the present proprietor. The generous patronage extended to it soon rendered its accommodations too limited, and in 1861 a large and commodious edifice was erected, containing general assembly rooms, class rooms, library, armory, philosophical and chemical experiment rooms and cadet quarters. At the same time a comfortable hospital was fitted up, and these, with other buildings, accommodated eighty boarding cadets. In 1868 a hall was erected to afford opportunity for horseback exercise, and abundant room for military evolutions in inclement weather. In 1874 another building was put up for cadet quarters, so that there is now ample room for one hundred and twenty-five boarding cadets, who have the salutary restraints, influences and comforts of a good home. Officers of the academic staff room in the same quarters with the cadets, mess with them, and supervise the table and deportment. All the rooms of the establishment are warmed by steam. The public rooms and halls are lighted by gas. The academy has a regular three years' course of study for young men, and a preparatory course for boys. As at the United States Military Academy at West Point, the studies are similar to those of high schools and colleges. All the common English branches are regarded and treated as of the first importance. These and the higher English branches, including Surveying, Civil Engineering and Natural Science, are taught by liberally-educated gentlemen who have had long and successful experience in teaching these studies, and who have gained a good reputation as principals of high or grammar schools before they are employed in this academy. Most of them are graduates of New England colleges. The philosophical and other apparatus for illustrating natural science and other subjects is very extensive. The military department comprises thorough instruction in the United States Infantry Tactics, including daily drill, and a course of lectures and studies on the theory of tactics; instruction in the United States Artillery Tactics, and drill with the piece and section; opportunity for obtaining

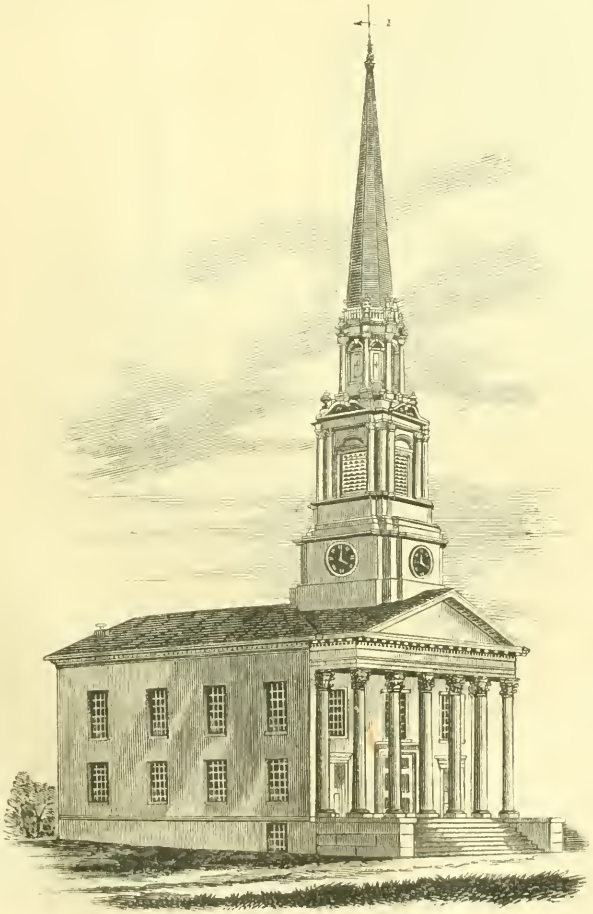


HIGHLAND MILITARY ACADEMY.

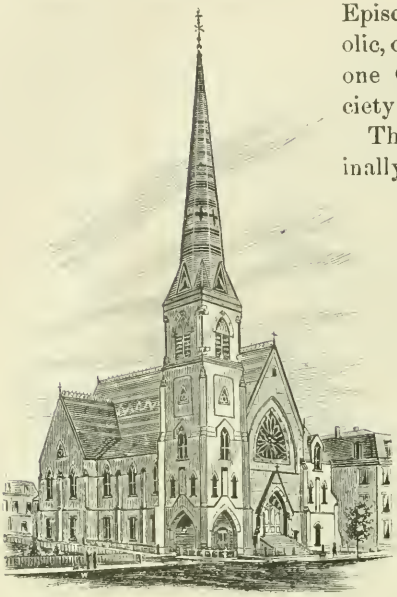
a knowledge of the staff duties of officers, the full routine of a military post being constantly observed, with its headquarters, quartermaster and other departments: constant military government, securing neatness, order, regularity and implicit obedience to proper authority. The military duties of the school have a direct and favorable bearing upon its intellectual improvement, while they require only the time usually given to the voluntary play of other schools.

THE CHURCHES.

There are in Worcester over thirty church societies, nearly all of them having churches. Of these there are eight Congregational Trinitarian, two Congregational Unitarian, seven Methodist Episcopal, two Protestant



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH.



FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

It stands on the Old Common, immediately beside the City Hall.

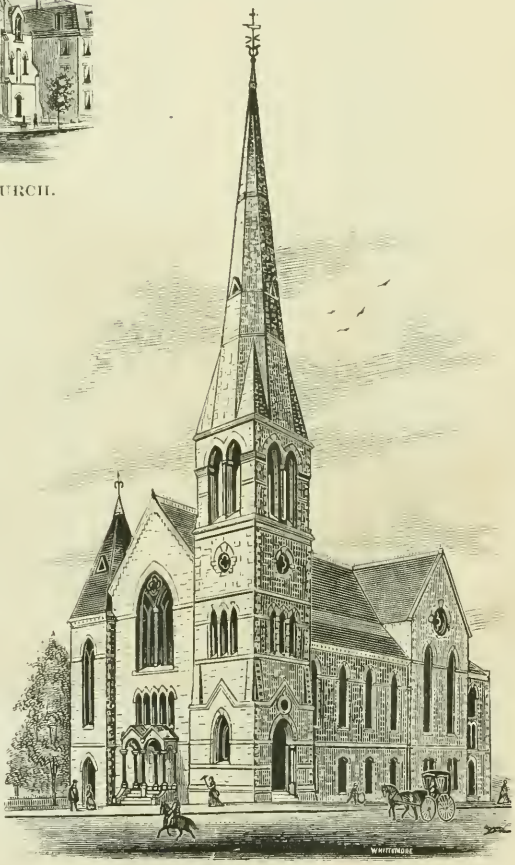
The Second Congregational (Unitarian), located on Court House Hill, is the third church built by this society since its organization in 1785, two former churches having been destroyed by fire. The present edifice is built of brick, covered with mastic, drawn in squares representing granite.

The Central Congregational Church, on Main street near Court House Hill, is one of the oldest churches in town, and is sustained by many of the best people.

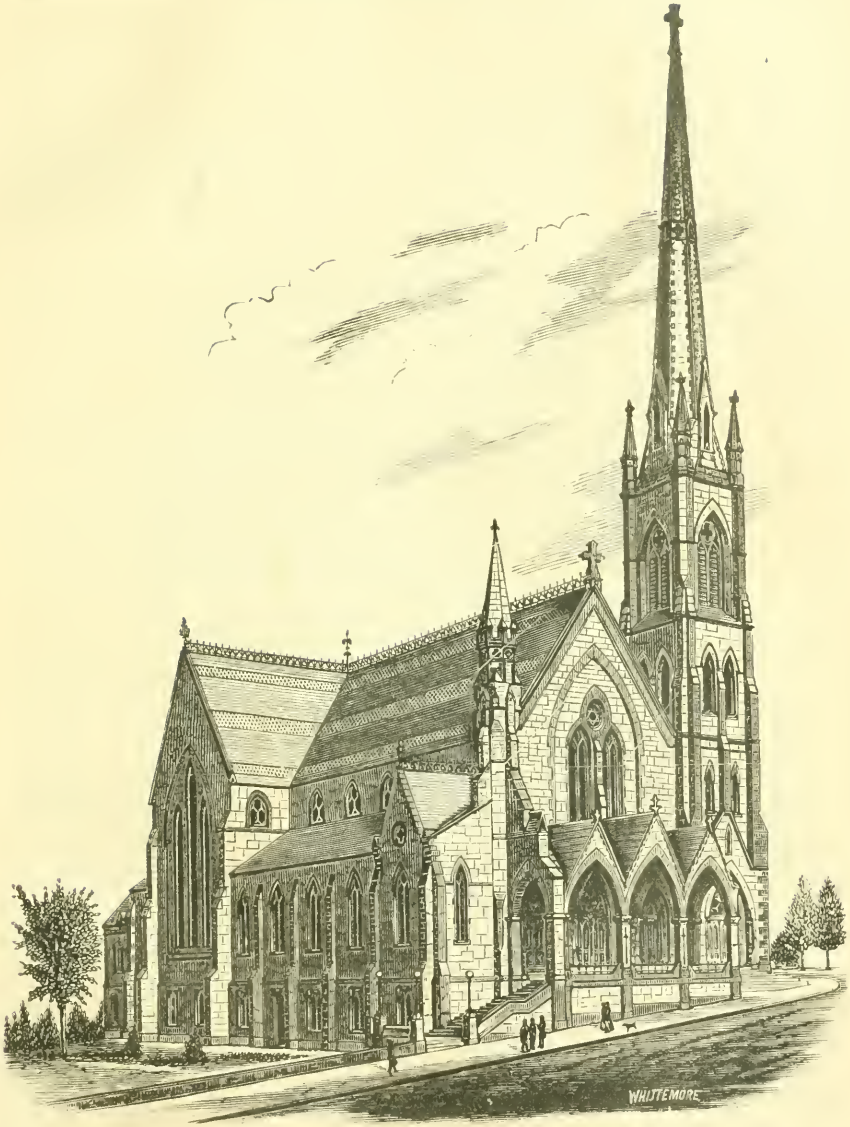
Episcopal, four Baptist, five Roman Catholic, one Universalist, one Second Advent, one Christian, one Swedenborgian, a Society of Friends and one of Spiritualists.

The Old South, built in 1763, was originally seventy feet long and fifty-five wide. It has been enlarged, however, its length now being ninety feet. It is the oldest church in the city. Its clock was made in 1800, and its bell was cast in 1802, and bears this inscription:

"The living to the church I call,
And to the grave I summon all."



PLYMOUTH CHURCH.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

The First Universalist Church, located on Pleasant street, is a unique and interesting specimen of architecture, and is occupied by the only society of this denomination in town.

Plymouth Church, Congregational Trinitarian, at the junction of Pearl and Chestnut streets, is a very substantial stone edifice, its fine granite

spire, one hundred and ninety-two feet high, being a very conspicuous object, and from its prominent position gives character to this part of the city.

Another very fine edifice is St. Paul's Church, Roman Catholic, at the corner of Chatham and High streets. It is entirely of granite, of Gothic architecture, one hundred and seventy feet long by ninety broad, with a spire, when complete, two hundred feet high. It is hoped that the bell tower will be occupied by a chime.

The Piedmont Church, Congregational Trinitarian, is a new and tasty edifice of brick, with granite trimmings, not yet quite completed, at the corner of Piedmont and Main streets.

The Tabernacle Congregational Church is the eighth and youngest of its order in the city, and worships in Mechanics' Hall.

TRINITY CHURCH.

Trinity Church, Methodist Episcopal, on Main street, at the corner of Chandler, is a tidy, compact edifice, quite ornamental, and adds to the appearance of the street in this section of the city.

The Salem Street Church, Congregational Trinitarian, shown at the lower end of the Old Common in our view of Front street on our cover page, was built in 1848, which was the date, also, of the organization of the society. It is of brick, and is one of the largest in the city.

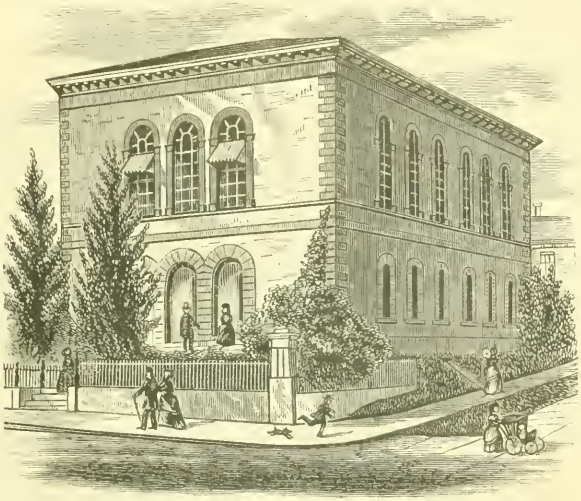
Union Congregational Church on Front street, is one of the popular churches in the city, but we have no view of it.

The New Jerusalem Church, Swedenborgian, is a new society which commenced holding meetings in March, 1874. Their place of worship is in Insurance Hall, No. 240 Main street.

All Saints Episcopal Church Society, who had the misfortune to have their house burned in 1873, now worship in Horticultural Hall. Steps are already taken for the erection of a new and costly edifice at the corner of Pleasant and Irving streets.

THE STREETS.

There seems to have been no well-defined plan in the original laying out of streets. Main street, running north and south, is that first laid out by the early settlers. Front street, Summer street and Lincoln street were also early used, and later, Salisbury, Green, Grafton and Pleasant



ANTIQUARIAN HALL.

streets were opened for use; then followed Mechanic, and several years later Thomas street. The remaining streets have been opened from time to time as the growth of the city demanded. As Main street is the principal thoroughfare, the larger number of business places are located here, and, as we shall show numerous views on this, we will commence at Lincoln square, the northern extremity, and pass along, making mention of the buildings as we go. And first, on Court House Hill, at the right, stands the building of the American Antiquarian Society, incorporated October 24, 1812, founded by Isaiah Thomas, who presented his valuable collection of books, newspapers and manuscripts as the beginning of a library; was chosen the first president, and held that office till his death, bequeathing funds by his will to provide for the society's operations and maintenance. In the practice of his profession as editor, author and publisher, Mr. Thomas became, as it were, a practical bibliophile, and a collector of such material as would be most desired in an antiquarian or historical library. The library now comprises more than fifty-three thousand volumes, consisting of manuscripts, books and newspapers, and is considered a very choice and extensive collection. There is also a

valuable cabinet containing ancient relics, coins, medals, colonial and continental paper-money. Although the outside of the society's building in Worcester may be thought plain and unattractive, the inside is rendered pleasing and interesting, not only by the rare volumes upon the shelves, but also by the one hundred and twenty-five portraits and other specimens of the painter's and engraver's art that adorn the walls. In the office of the librarian stands a tall clock formerly owned by Governor Hancock, made by Bowley, of London, and from a record on one of its wheels of having been cleaned in 1754, it seems to have attained an age of nearly a century and a quarter. It is still doing as good service as ever, announcing the hours, half-hours and quarters by the striking of its musical bells. The librarian of the society is Mr. Samuel F. Haven; the assistant librarian, Mr. E. M. Barton.

The Court Houses also adorn the eminence, of which we show a small view. As we have already mentioned the courts, their establishment, etc., we need not pursue this subject further. Opposite from these is the old Exchange Hotel, as it is now called, where Washington is said to have breakfasted while passing through here in 1789, and in 1825 the house is said to have been honored by General Lafayette, who stayed here and took breakfast when on his way to Boston to assist at the laying of the corner-stone of Bunker Hill Monument. Further up, and on the same side, is the Quinsigamond National Bank Building, a unique

COURT HILL.

structure, and when built, quite a model of architectural design. The institution received its charter in 1833, with a capital of $100,000. In 1851 the capital was increased to $150,000, and in 1854 to $250,000, which is the present amount. It was reorganized as a national bank in May, 1865. The first president was Mr. A. D. Foster, who was succeeded in 1836 by Hon. Isaac Davis, who still continues in that office.

Mr. C. A. Hamilton, the first cashier, was succeeded by Mr. J. S. Farnum, who continued as cashier until his death in 1873, when Mr. A. A. Howe, the present cashier, succeeded him.

On the opposite side of the street is a fine block of Concord granite, occupied on the first floor by the Merchants' & Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, one of the oldest corporations in the city, commencing business in 1846, and since that time, including the losses in the Boston fire of $400,000, it has paid $1,200,000. The officers are composed of prominent business men, and its reputation is a substantial one.

INSURANCE BLOCK.

The floor above is occupied by the State Mutual Life Assurance Co. This company began business in 1845, and has the reputation of being one of the oldest and most successful life assurance companies in America, having for its managers conservative men, selecting risks carefully, investing funds prudently, and managing the business with economy. The company has a surplus fund over all liabilities of more than $230,000, so that the aggregate interest received on funds invested exceeds all the death losses, making it a very safe and desirable company in which to insure.

Just here is the harness and saddlery store of Mr. R. McAleer, whose sign, reading differently from three different ways, was the subject lately of a political joke which is worthy of notice. One of the *Representative* men of the city, passing here shortly previous to election, looked up at the sign, then paused and addressing a bystander remarked: "Those are the kind of *political* signs to wear about with you *this* year. If you expect to be elected 'tis well to have your sign read differently from every direction." We will state that the gentleman *was elected.*

Nearly adjoining, at No. 246, is the Worcester Five Cent Savings Bank. This was incorporated April 1, 1854, Charles L. Putnam, Esq.,

being chosen president, which office he has continued to hold to the present time. The number of depositors, November 1, was 7,178, whose aggregate amount of deposits was $1,400,538.26. The first treasurer, Mr. Clarendon Harris, occupied that position until January 1, 1872, when the present treasurer, Mr. George W. Wheeler, entered, and still continues.

At the corner of Exchange street is the Bay State House. This is the largest public house in Worcester, and one of the most popular in the State. It has a frontage on Main street of 100 feet, and on Exchange of 170, and contains rooms for 300 guests. The house has been under the present management (Messrs. Horace Barnes & Co.) for about three years, during which time many important improvements have been made, and it is now eminently first-class in all its appointments.

BAY STATE HOUSE.

The Worcester Theatre stands just below here on Exchange street, a modest, unpretending building, and the only theatre building in the city. The people of Worcester are evidently not patrons of the drama to any such extent as of literature or music. In both of these they show the greatest love and appreciation, as the often crowded condition of the halls will amply testify.

The Central Exchange Building, built in 1843, on the corner of Exchange and Main streets, for the purpose of the Post Office, was occupied by this for several years on the one side, and by the Worcester Bank on the other. Since the removal of these institutions it has been occupied by the Mechanics National and the Mechanics Savings Banks respectively, while the upper floors are used for offices, among which is that of the Worcester Palladium. This paper was founded in January, 1834, by J. S. C. Knowlton, who conducted it until his death in 1871. It then became the property of his three daughters, who, since October,

1873, have assumed its sole direction. The paper was formerly Democratic, but, upon the organization of the Republican party, new views were adopted, and it has since been a Republican journal. It is the aim of the present management to make it an artistic, musical and literary journal, publishing the news in a condensed form, and is issued weekly.

We have now come to Mechanics Hall. This building is owned by the Worcester County Mechanics Association, which was organized in 1842. It is in the Corinthian order of architecture, has 100 feet front, and is 145 feet deep. The lower floors are occupied as stores, the second

MECHANICS HALL.

by offices, the library of the association, consisting of a large number of volumes, and Washburn Hall, while on the third floor is the large hall capable of containing nearly five thousand persons. This is the popular place for entertainments in Worcester, and is one of the finest halls in the country. Our cuts show an exterior and also an interior view.

The next is Union Building, in which is the extensive dry goods house of Messrs. Barnard, Sumner & Co., who do a first-class business in this line, and the largest in the city. They are patronized by the best classes in and out of the city, and are probably the most successful dry goods firm

here. Mr. Barnard, the senior member of the concern, was formerly of the firm of Chamberlain & Barnard in the same building.

Opposite this, extending from Walnut to Maple streets, is Brinley Hall, which is occupied on the first floor by stores, and on the second by offices, the hall above being occupied by Post 10, G. A. R. The Citizens' National Bank has rooms in the building. This institution, at No. 354, is successor of the Citizens' Bank, which was chartered in April, 1836, and opened for business in October of the same year, with Benjamin Butman as president and George A. Trumbull as cashier. It was

MECHANICS HALL — INTERIOR.

organized as a National Bank in February, 1865, with F. H. Kinnicutt as president and John C. Ripley as cashier. Mr. Ripley has been succeeded by L. W. Hammond as cashier, while the president remains the same. They have a capital of $150,000.

The American House Block, corner of Main and Foster streets, now occupied by Mr. W. H. Robinson as a first-class jewelry store, was first built as the residence of Hon. A. D. Foster. It was afterward enlarged and converted into what was known as the American Temperance House, shown on our fourth page, and this was for many years the principal

hotel. About fifteen years ago it was again enlarged, and thus converted into stores.

On Foster street is the Worcester Bank Block, occupied by the Worcester National Bank, of which Stephen Salisbury is president, William Cross vice-president, and James P. Hamilton cashier, having a capital of $500,000 and a surplus of $150,000. This institution justly claims precedence of the banks of the city and county of Worcester by reason of its long and honorable record, covering a period of seventy years. It was chartered by the State in 1804, and reorganized under the United States law in 1864. It was established and is still managed by men conspicuous among those to whom Worcester is to-day indebted for much of her prosperity. Hon. Daniel Waldo was its president for more than forty years, and was succeeded by Mr. Salisbury in 1846. The block owned by the bank was erected in 1851. The ground story is occupied also by the Worcester County Institution for Savings, which was incorporated in 1828, and

AMERICAN HOUSE BLOCK.

was the first in the county. Its assets now amount to over five and one-half millions, belonging to more than *fifteen thousand depositors.* The Hon. Daniel Waldo was also president of this until 1846, and was also succeeded by Hon. Stephen Salisbury, who retained the office until 1871.

WORCESTER BANK BLOCK.

Since that time Hon. Alexander H. Bullock has been its president. The treasurer, Mr. Samuel Jennison, retained the office until 1853. Mr. Chas. A. Hamilton was then chosen, and has occupied the place to the present time. In the second story are the offices of the Worcester Gas Light Company, the Worcester and Nashua Railroad Company, and the Barre and Gardner Railroad Company. The entire upper story is occupied by the cabinet of the Worcester Lyceum and Natural History Association, which society was organized in 1852 as the Young Men's Library Association, with a department of Natural History, and in 1856 the Worcester Lyceum (incorporated in 1830) was united with it. In 1859 the large and valuable library of the association was given to the city as the foundation of the circulating department of the Free Public Library, soon after which the present name was adopted. Following out the original plan of the Lyceum, a course of popular lectures has been given each winter under the direction of a committee of the association, in addition to which public meetings are held at their hall the second Tuesday of each month. At the monthly meetings papers are read, and discussions take place upon appropriate subjects. The cabinet, with its many thousand specimens, is open to the public one afternoon and evening of each week, except during the three summer months. Any resident of Worcester county is eligible to membership. The fee for gentlemen is $2.00, for ladies $1.00, and for pupils attending schools fifty cents. The association has a small library, mostly books relating to scientific study. The officers for 1874–5 are:

President, Nathaniel Paine; Vice-Presidents, T. E. St. John and James Bushee; Recording Secretary, Charles E. Phelps; Corresponding Secretary, W. T. Harlow; Treasurer, James S. Rogers; Superintendent of Cabinet, T. A. Dickinson; Lecture Committee, C. A. Chase, C. W. Gilbert and J. S. Rogers. The building covers about 7500 feet of land in the heart of the city, and is still a very handsome edifice, however surrounded by more modern and elaborate structures.

The Waldo House, of which the enterprising Start Brothers are proprietors, is on Waldo street, just below the Foster street depot. The name is suggestive of one of Worcester's noble men, Hon. Daniel Waldo, who formerly occupied the house as his residence, the building then standing on Main street. It has since been removed to Waldo street, enlarged, and has for many years been a public house. At this house the

LINCOLN HOUSE BLOCK.

rooms are always ready, waiters always in attendance, and visitors are sure of receiving the best of fare and usage.

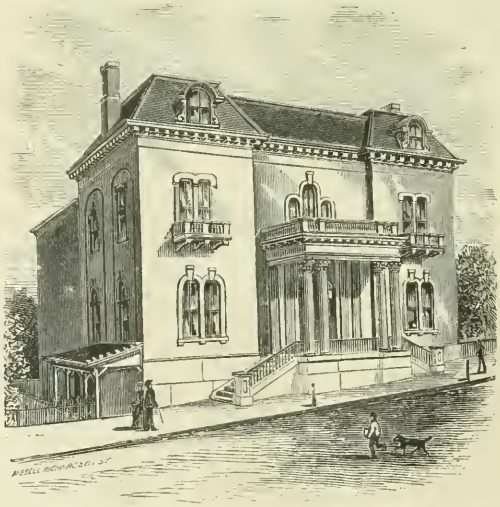
Lincoln House Block, on the corner of Main and Maple streets, was for many years a long, low building, called the "Tombs," but was at length enlarged and occupied for a season as a hotel, but afterwards for stores, prominent among which are now the large book and stationery rooms of Messrs. Sanford & Co., who do a first-class business in that line.

Immediately connected with this, on Elm street, is the Lincoln House, the most central hotel in the city. Mr. S. W. Balcom, the proprietor, was formerly connected with other hotels and has had a long experience

in the business. Patrons at this house will find pleasant, cozy rooms and a genial host.

LINCOLN HOUSE.

A little above here on Elm street we have the Public Library building. The Free Public Library was established December 23, 1859, by the City Council on the receipt of a large gift of books from John Green, M. D., and a smaller gift from the Worcester Lyceum and Library Association. It consists of reference, intermediate and circulating departments, and of two reading rooms. The reference department is called the Green Library, in honor of its founder, and is supplied with books from the income of a fund with which Dr. Green endowed it at his death. By a provision of his will none of the books bought with the money left by him can be taken from the library building. Provision is also made in the will for the gradual enlargement of the fund by the addition to it every year of one-quarter



FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

of the income. All losses to the principal must also be repaired from the income. The fund now amounts to $35,000 or more. The reading rooms are mainly supplied from the income of a fund of about $11,000 raised by subscription among the citizens of Worcester. The chief support of the library is derived from an annual appropriation by the city government from money raised by taxation on polls and real and personal property. To this the dog fund is added. From the two latter sources are obtained the means of paying the running expenses of the library, and money with which to make additions of books to the circulating and intermediate departments. By an arrangement made with the Worcester District Medical Society, its books are kept in the building of the Free Public Library, and can be used by the same persons and on the same conditions recognized in the use of books in the Green Library. There are about 33,000 volumes in all the departments of the Free Public Library, and about 3,500 volumes in the Medical Library, and 125 American and 53 foreign papers, magazines and reviews are taken in the reading rooms. In the circulating department, probably 100,000 volumes are given out yearly. The Free Public Library is governed by a board of directors, chosen by the City Council for a term of six years, which consists of twelve members, two retiring and two newly elected each year. The executive staff of the library consists of a librarian and five assistants, on week-days, and of the librarian and one assistant during certain hours on Sunday. The Green Library and reading rooms are open on Sunday from two till nine o'clock, P. M. For particulars in regard to the history and management of the library the reader is referred to its annual reports, printed rules and documents, and to the latest reports of the United States Commissioner of Education.

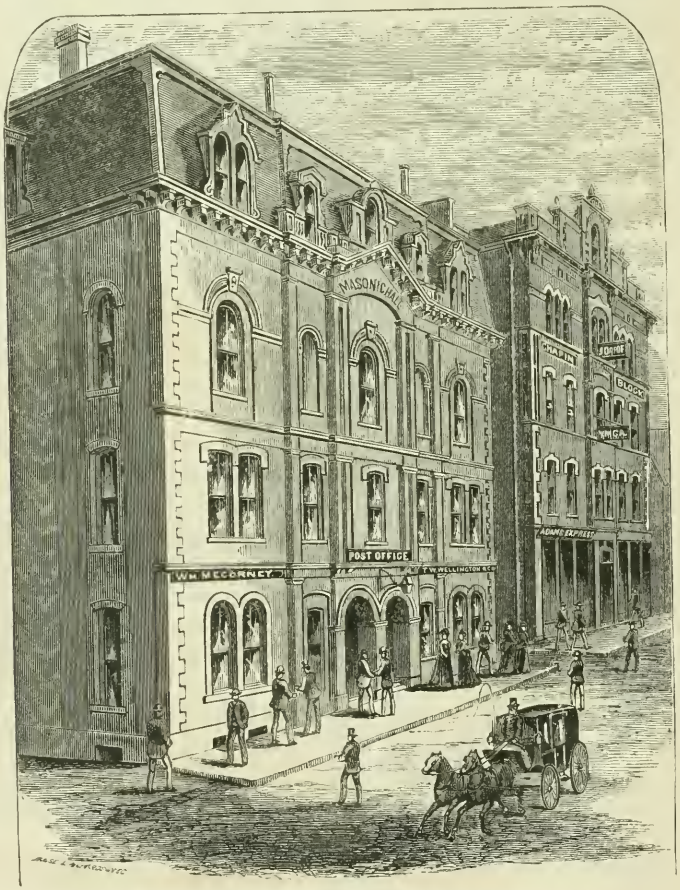
On Main street, near the corner of Elm, is the office of the Daily Worcester Evening Gazette, established in 1843, and the Weekly Ægis and Gazette, established in 1802. Both these papers are published by Charles H. Doe & Co., who are in full membership with the Associated Press. Of the Gazette there are three editions daily. In politics it is an independent Republican paper. It is now in the fifth year of its present management, during which time it has steadily extended its circulation and influence. The office is the original Spy office, and is located at No. 392 Main street.

Clark's Block is a fine structure of brick covered with mastic, located at the corner of Main and Mechanic streets, and regarded by many as one of the finest looking buildings in town.

The Worcester Daily Press, occupying a part of Crompton Block on Mechanic street, was established by Edward R. Fiske & Co. in April, 1873, and has already become a success, having a very general circulation in the towns in Worcester county, and wielding a large political

influence in this section of the State. Although claiming to be committed to no party or sect, it aims to uphold such men for public service as are best suited to the demands of the time. The Press is published in two daily editions, morning and evening, and the publisher, Mr. J. A. Spaulding, will no doubt secure for it in a little time a place among the leading newspapers of the country.

Passing now up Pearl street we have the Post Office building, built in 1866, by Messrs. Foster, Rice, Chapin, Hoar and Dadmun, for the especial purpose for which it is now used. It is of brick, having a sandstone front, and cost about $70,000. The Post Office occupies the first floor, together with a periodical store, etc., and the coal office of T. W. Wellington & Co., the most extensive firm by far in this line of trade. The second floor is devoted entirely to offices, while in the two upper stories of the



POST OFFICE AND CHAPIN BLOCK.

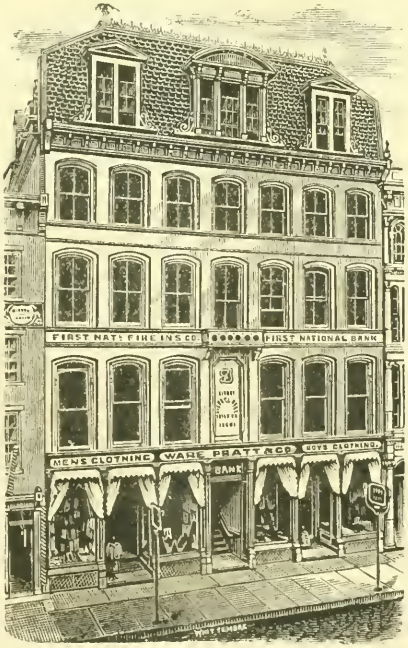
FOSTER'S BLOCK.

street, accommodates carriages and persons passing to and from those streets. The Post Office is constructed with three entrances, one in front and one on each side, and all the mail-bags are received and delivered from the passage-way at a separate door at the rear of the building. The two buildings are conveniently connected by a stairway leading from one to the other, sometimes called "The Bridge of Sighs."

On the corner of Main and Pearl streets is Foster's Block, the first iron front built in New England. It was built by Calvin Foster in 1854, from designs furnished by Elbridge Boyden, who

building are the Masonic halls, where all the Masonic bodies hold their meetings.

Immediately connected with this is Chapin Block, built in 1869 by the same parties, at about the same expense. This is also of brick, ornamented in front with granite trimmings, and is occupied on the first floor by the Adams Express Company and a first-class grocery, on the second floor by offices, and the third is occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association. The Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias hold their meetings in the halls above. The buildings are very conveniently arranged, with passageways round and between them, one of which, extending from Pearl to Pleasant



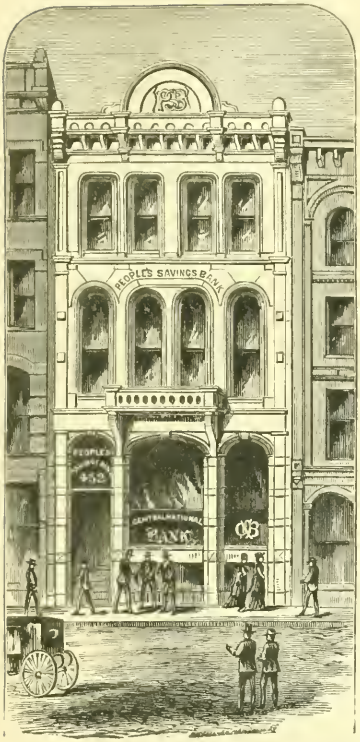
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.

WORCESTER SAFE DEPOSIT CO.

also furnished the designs for the Post Office and Chapin Block. It has a Corinthian front, thirty feet in breadth, and is four stories in height. Each story has a row of elaborately wrought Corinthian columns, with appropriate bases, and projecting returned full Corinthian frieze and cornice. This is considered to be one of the finest iron fronts in America. The first floor is occupied by C. Foster & Co. as a hardware store, and on the second floor are the rooms of the City National Bank.

The City National Bank was incorporated as a State institution in 1854, with a capital of $200,000, and became a national bank in July, 1864. The banking rooms have lately been much improved, and are now considered the finest in the city. The very elaborately finished work in desks, etc., was furnished by Messrs. William G. Anderson & Co., whose work has attained a very fine reputation in this line. The present capital of the bank (Jan., 1875,) is $400,000, with a surplus of $124,000. Hon. George W. Richardson has been president from the beginning, and the cashier, Nathaniel Paine, has been in office since 1857. The upper part of the building is occupied by E. Boyden & Son, architects, who are the oldest in this profession in the city, and who have been mentioned as the designers of this building.

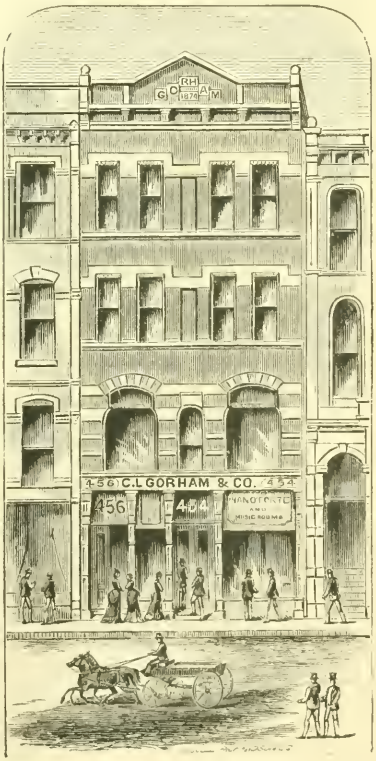
Adjoining this is the First National Bank Building. This was the first marble front erected in the city. The First National Bank was organized and commenced business in October, 1863, with a capital of $100,000. Since that time it has been increased by two additions, making a capital at the present time of $300,000. At its organization it was designated by the United States Government a depository for public moneys, and so continues at the present time. Besides paying regular semi-annual dividends, without a single omission, it has accumulated a surplus fund of $151,000. In 1869 the present edifice was erected by its president, Mr. E. A. Goodnow, and Mr. R. C. Taylor, one of its directors, and rooms were provided for the accommodation of the bank, fitted up



PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK BUILDING.

conflagration of 1872 threatened its destruction, the stockholders, with characteristic promptness, voted an assessment and paid their losses in full, being one of the three stock companies in Massachusetts who did not ask their creditors to accept anything less than absolute indemnity for their claims. Since that time the success of the company has seemed to be guaranteed; its reputation for fair-dealing and strict justice is well established, and its judicious management places the value of its policies very high in the estimation of the business community. Its officers are, E. A. Goodnow, president; Chas. B. Pratt, vice-president and manager, and Geo. in the best style, and at the completion of the building were the finest in the city. Its rooms are on the second floor.

On the same floor is the office of the First National Insurance Company of Worcester. This company was chartered in 1868, and commenced business in January, 1869, with a cash capital of $100,000. The originators and largest stockholders are nearly all directors of the First National Bank, and are men well known in the community as successful, honorable and upright business managers. The company has done a small but profitable business, and although the Boston



GORHAM BLOCK.

E. Kendall, secretary. Messrs. Ware, Pratt & Co. occupy two stories of the building, besides the basement. This is the most extensive clothing house in the city, employing 150 hands, and manufacturing all their best class of clothing themselves. The annual sales of this house have reached the large sum of $225,000.

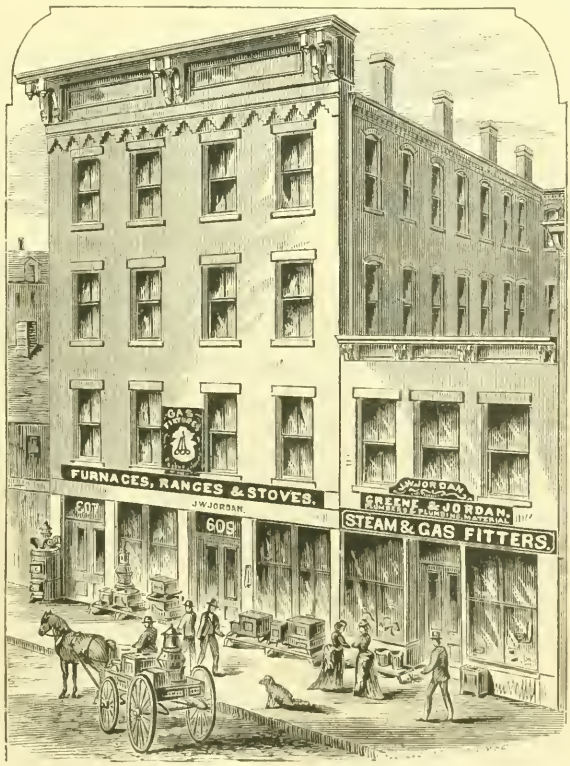
Passing Pleasant street and the City Hall, we have the building of the Worcester Spy, which began existence in Boston in July, 1770, Isaiah Thomas being editor and publisher, with T. Fowle as an associate for a few months. At first it was issued three times a week. Its chief purpose was to advocate "The Cause of America," and some of the foremost revolutionists were among its writers. In April, 1775, it was removed to Worcester, the British and the tories having made Boston too hot for Mr. Thomas; and during the time of this removal the battle of Lexington was fought. The printing of the Spy for May 3, 1775, was the first printing done in Worcester. Mr. Thomas continued his connection with the paper until 1801, since which time it has passed through several hands until 1858. The present parties, John D. Baldwin and his two sons, have conducted it since that time. This is the oldest paper in the State. The publication of the Daily Spy commenced in 1845. The present building was erected in 1867 expressly for the use of the paper.

TAYLOR'S BUILDING.

The Spy has a very large circulation. The Western Union Telegraph Company have their station also in the building.

SCOTT'S BLOCK.

The Worcester Safe Deposit and Trust Company, occupying the next building, No. 448 Main street, is a State institution, its charter having been granted by the Legislature in March, 1868, for the purpose of affording to the community a place to deposit bonds and other securities and valuables for safe keeping. The committee having charge of the erection of the People's Savings Bank Building constructed a large and very substantial stone vault, in which this company have their burglar-proof cases, and *inside* of these cases are located the small safes for the use of banks, corporations and



JORDAN'S BLOCK.

SMITH'S BLOCK.

individuals. These large burglar-proof cases, of which there are two, weighing more than six tons (12,000 lbs.) each, are made of the best and *only* known material that defies the action of the drill and sledge-hammer —*welded iron* and *steel, hardened*— the outer walls of which are more than two inches thick, and all corners thoroughly secured by angle-iron, no rivets being used in fastening one plate or part to the other, and none other but conical-headed bolts are used, the heads of which are made of the same material as the body of the safes, steel and iron welded together and twisted, then hardened, making the exposed bolt-head more difficult to go through than the wall of the safe, if that be possible. These bolts are held in place by wrought-iron nuts inside, the screw end of the bolts being upset, so that the nuts cannot be turned off. The folding doors to these mammoth cases, when opened, are really a great curiosity to any person not familiar with the better class of burglar-proof work. Each door is protected, when bolted and locked, with eight heavy revolving wrought-iron bolts, securing each edge of each door in the most thorough manner. The importance of such an institution in the community can readily be seen by all, but particularly by that large class of thrifty persons whose surroundings are unfavorable for the safe-keeping of valuables. The officers are, George M. Rice, president; Edward F. Bisco, secretary; H. H. Houghton, manager safe deposit department.

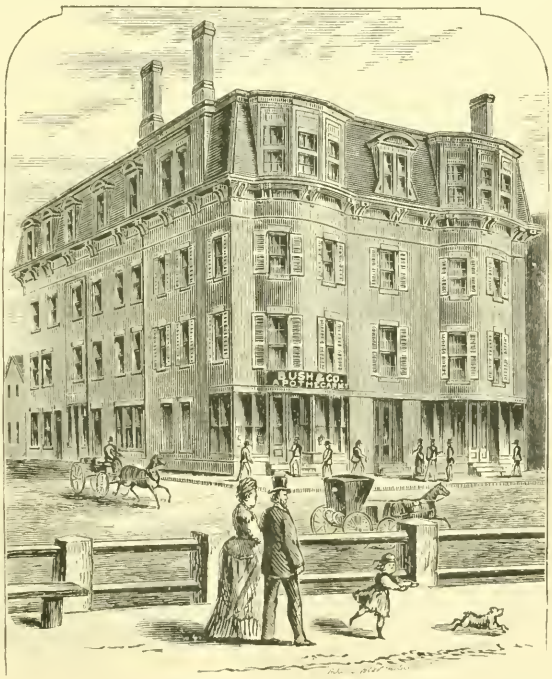
The People's Savings Bank commenced business in December, 1864, and erected the building here represented, on Main street, opposite the City Hall, in 1869, under the supervision of a committee of the trustees,

consisting of William Cross, James B. Blake and Calvin Foster, who were successful in planning and erecting one of the finest structures in the city. The front is built of Tuckahoe marble, and all the windows are of heavy plate-glass, producing a rich and elegant effect. The interior is finished in hard wood, finely polished, and is heated with steam throughout. The room, on the second floor, occupied by this bank, is large and convenient for the transaction of the extensive business of this popular institution, which is ably managed by experienced financiers.

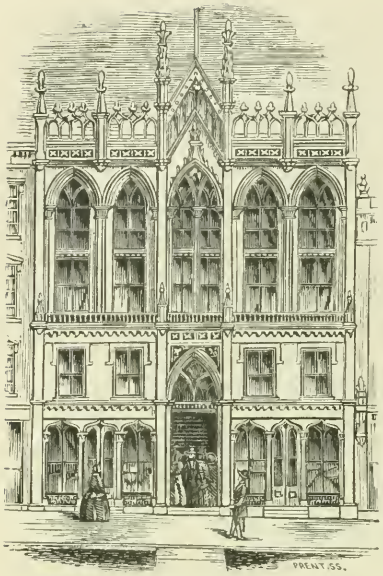
The Central National Bank has its rooms on the first floor of the building. It was incorporated as a State bank in 1829, and organized as a National bank May 18, 1864. The bank has a capital of $300,000, and a surplus of $120,000. Its officers are, John C. Mason, president; Henry A. Marsh, cashier; W. J. Hapgood, assistant cashier, and Thomas L. Nelson, solicitor.

C. L. Gorham & Co.'s Block, next to the People's Savings Bank, is a fine piece of architecture, new and but just fitted up. The proprietors have lately opened on the first floor the finest and most elaborate piano and music rooms to be found in the city.

Taylor's Building, a massive and imposing granite structure, stands next in our illustrations, and is truly one of the architectural ornaments



KELLEY'S BLOCK.



FRONT STREET EXCHANGE.

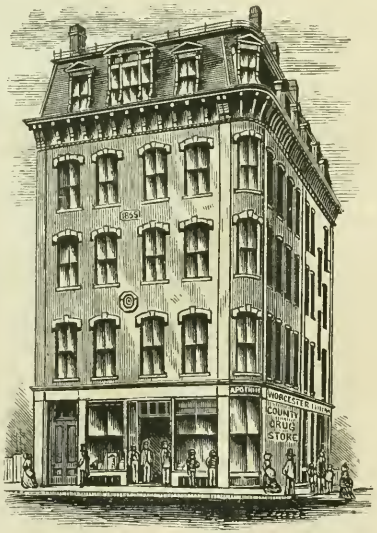
of the city; but while the exterior is beautiful and will speak for itself, the interior is no less tasteful and proportionate. The large furniture and upholstery concern of John D. Chollar & Co., occupy a large part of the building with their business, which far surpasses that of any other house in the city, having large and elegant varieties of rich furniture, lace and upholstery goods, which form as fine a display as may be found in Boston or New York. The other part of the building is occupied on the first floor by Messrs. Clark, Sawyer & Co. with a dazzling display of fine crockery, silver, glass and China wares and paper-hangings.

Scott's Block, a unique and interesting specimen of architecture, stands at the junction of Main and Southbridge streets, and easily attracts the eye of the stranger.

Above here, at Nos. 609 and 611, is Jordan's Block, the proprietor of which, Mr. J. W. Jordan, occupies it with stoves, furnaces and ranges, together with an extensive variety of gas-fitting and plumbing materials. Mr. Jordan's prosperity has been mainly due to close application to business. Commencing in a single room in 1852, his trade has steadily increased, until at present he does by far the largest business in the city in his line.

From this point to New Worcester Main street is principally occupied by residences, many of which are very fine, and a few of which we show.

Smith's Block, standing on the corner of Shrewsbury and Mulberry streets, was built the present year by E. T. and Jesse Smith. It is four stories high, and occupied for wholesale and retail grocery business. A large hydraulic elevator, made at the Free



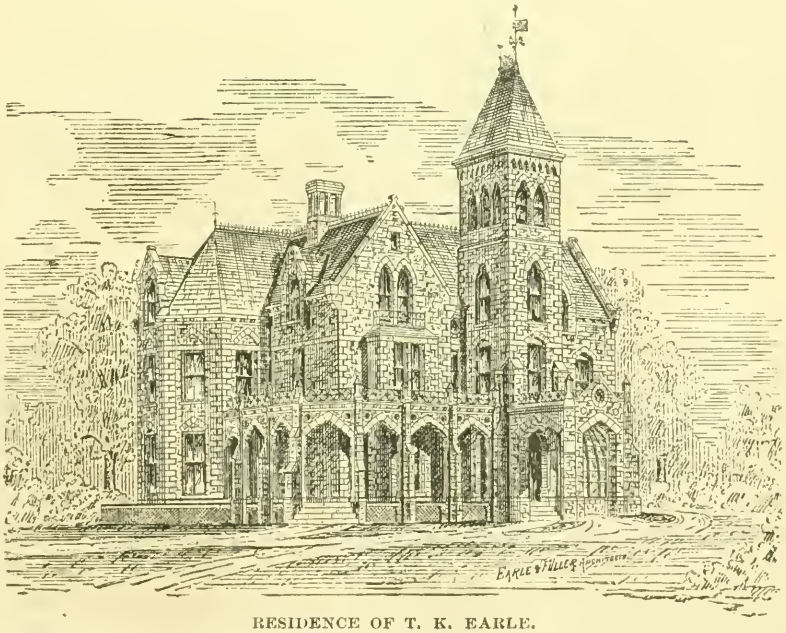
DODGE'S BLOCK.

Institute of Industrial Science, is connected with the building, and is well worth seeing. E. T. Smith & Co. occupy about five thousand square feet of flooring, and are considered one of the largest and best jobbing houses in the country.

We also show a cut of Dr. Kelley's Block on Front street, the ground floor of which is occupied by Bush & Co., druggists and apothecaries, who do the largest wholesale business in this line in town.

We show on our cover a view of a portion of Front street. Near the centre of the Common, but not shown in our cut, is the Bigelow Monument, in memory of Col. Bigelow, an early defender of American liberty. At the eastern extremity of the Common is the Soldiers' Monument, executed under the superintendence of foreign artists, at a cost of $60,000. The writer has seen many monuments erected to the memory of our country's fallen heroes, and it is but just to say that in beauty of proportion and appropriateness of design this monument is not excelled by any. Beyond this are shown the Salem Street and the First Baptist churches, and the blocks which are fast making Front the principal street, next to Main, in the city.

Sumner Pratt & Co., cotton and woolen manufacturers' agency, are at No. 22, where they have a machinery and general supply store. This firm is soon to erect large buildings for their trade.



RESIDENCE OF T. K. EARLE.

RESIDENCE OF J. H. WALKER.

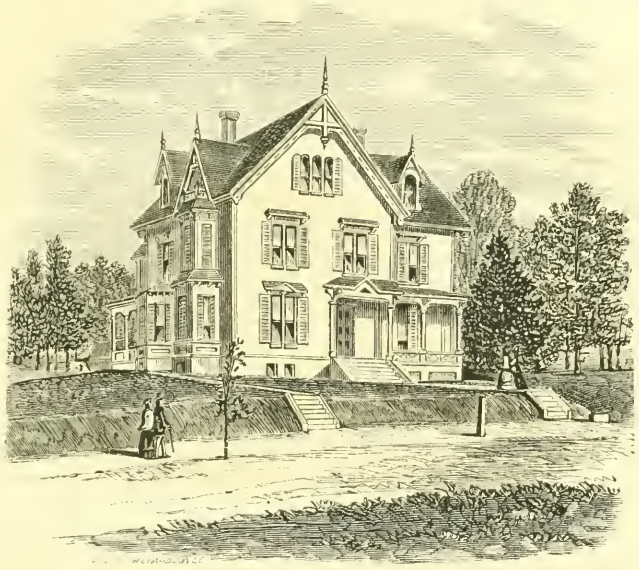
The Front Street Exchange was built in 1856 for a theatre, but is now occupied by offices and the Civil Municipal Court, while the ground floor is occupied by Mr. George E. Fairbanks as a drug store—one of the most tasteful in the city.

The Worcester County Horticultural Society own a fine building on Front street, nearly opposite City Hall, and have the best horticultural library in the country, with the exception of the Boston society.

At the corner of Park and Portland streets is Dodge's Block, a fine office building, occupied by Fred. G. Tilton, druggist, and the extensive law and patent offices of Mr. Thomas H. Dodge, the proprietor.

THE RESIDENCES.

As the manufacturing interests occupy nearly one side of the city, apart from Main street, so, also, outside of these and on either side, do we find a continuous line of residences, and but a step from the main street we enter the most delightful retirement. There are very many pleasant, cozy homes on the outskirts, and also a large number of sumptuous homes, but for the most part they are but a little removed from Main street. We have been favored with cuts of only a few of these. In a later edition we hope to present a larger number. Go where you will in Worcester, the same neatness and beauty in homes is observable. Architectural design, the arrangement of lawns, garden plots and foliage, all lend their aid to make Worcester charming; and while the rapid march of her



RESIDENCE OF J. W. JORDAN.

industries threatens to extend her business centres ere long, yet to-day she is perfectly constituted, in business and retirement, for the happiness and contentment of her citizens.

The photographic views taken for this work are by Mr. Frank Lawrence, No. 352 Main street, and have aided much in getting satisfactory cuts. Mr. Lawrence has the reputation of being a fine artist, and he especially shows his taste in landscapes, for which he has a complete set of instruments.

WATER AND SEWERAGE.

Water for the use of the city is obtained by gravitation from a reservoir in Leicester, four and one-half miles from City Hall, and at an elevation of 327 feet above the city. The reservoir covers 143 acres, and will hold 700,000,000 gallons, with a water-shed of 1870 acres. There are 75 miles of pipe, 475 hydrants, and 4281 service pipes. Water was first brought into the city in 1845 from Bell pond (at that time called Bladder pond) by a private company. In 1848 the city bought, and in 1863–4 built the present works at Leicester.

The city has over thirty miles of sewers, emptying into Mill brook and from thence into Blackstone river. The water and sewage systems are so perfect that there are numerous visitors to inspect them.

RAILROADS.

Worcester has six lines of railroads: the Boston and Albany, Norwich and Worcester, Worcester and Nashua, Fitchburg and Worcester, Boston, Barre and Gardner, and the Providence and Worcester, the first five of which occupy the depot on Foster street, except the through trains on the Boston and Albany, which arrive at and depart from the depot in Washington square. On the completion of the Union Passenger Depot, shown on our cover page, all the roads in the city will be united at this point, which will be of great advantage, as such an arrangement will do away with the old Foster street depot and the numerous tracks which now run through the heart of the city. The roof of the new Union Passenger Station is a remarkable iron structure. It is a double roof, each section having a span of 125 feet in width, is 50 feet in height, and 450 feet in length, being supported by eight wrought-iron trestles resting on cast-iron columns eighteen inches in diameter and thirty feet high and upon the walls of the building, which are of the most substantial granite work.

We have not attempted to give a list of *all* the manufacturing in the city, nor of societies or associations, deeming that the work of a directory rather than of a book like this, which is mainly an illustration of buildings. To the success of this in so large a measure as our pages show we are indebted to those who have favored us with their notices, as no work of this nature can be made to pay simply from its sale. We can only hope that it may not be said of our work, as "Buckle" says, "The important facts have been neglected and the unimportant ones preserved."

J. W. JORDAN,

Manufacturer of and Dealer in

Stoves, Furnaces and Ranges.

TIN ROOFING AND JOBBING.

609 and 611 Main Street,

WORCESTER, MASS.

PLUMBING,

STEAM AND GAS PIPING

Done by experienced workmen, and

WARRANTED TO GIVE SATISFACTION.

J. W. JORDAN,

Successor to GREENE & JORDAN.

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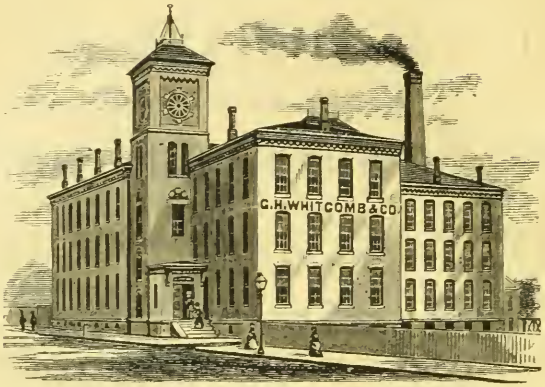

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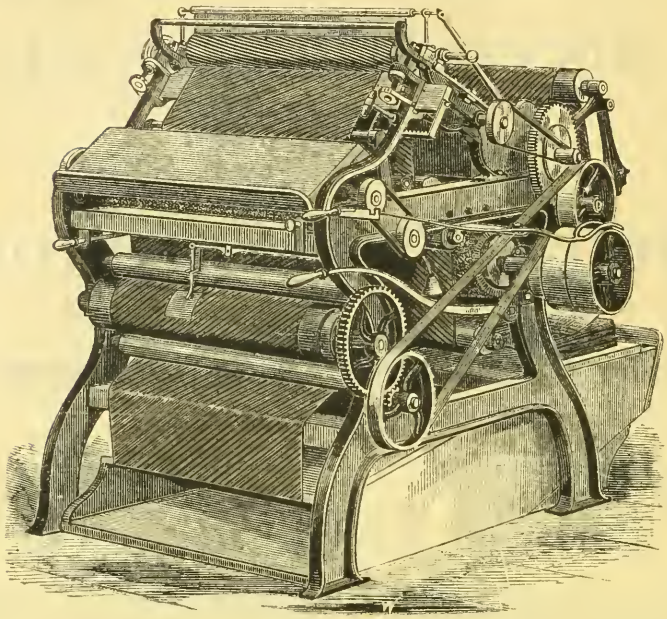

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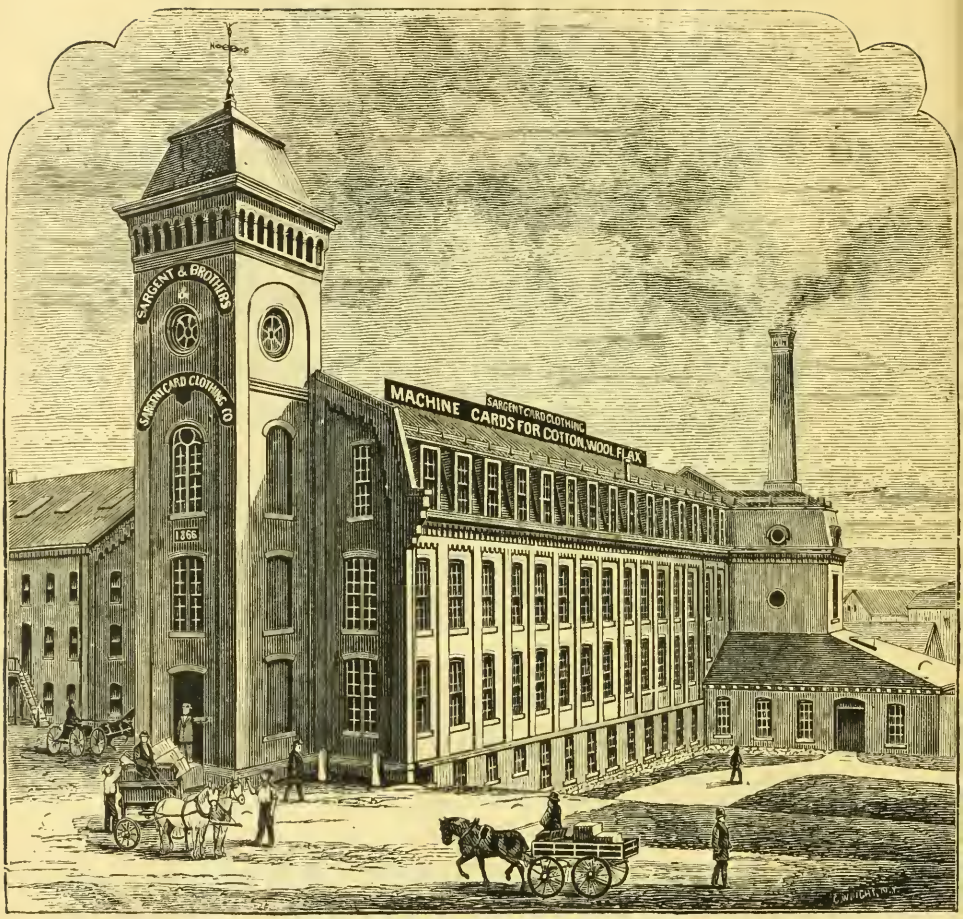

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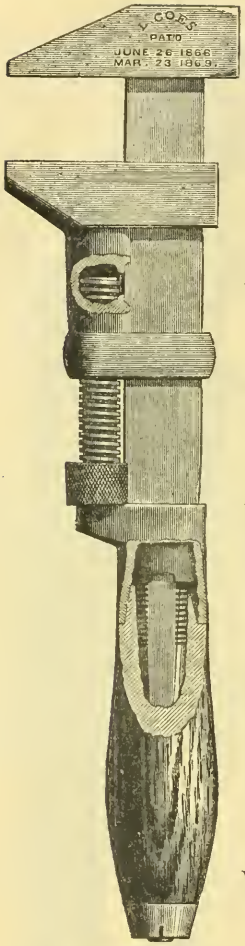

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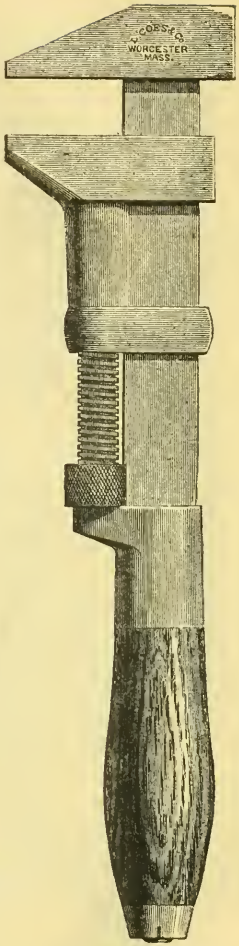

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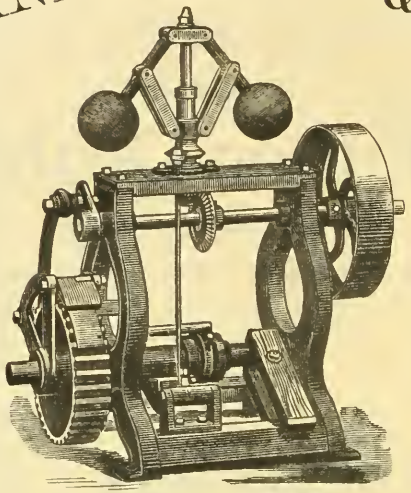

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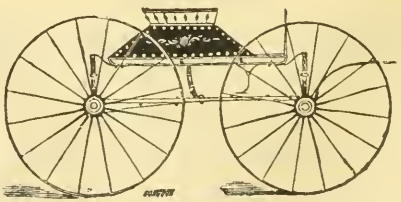

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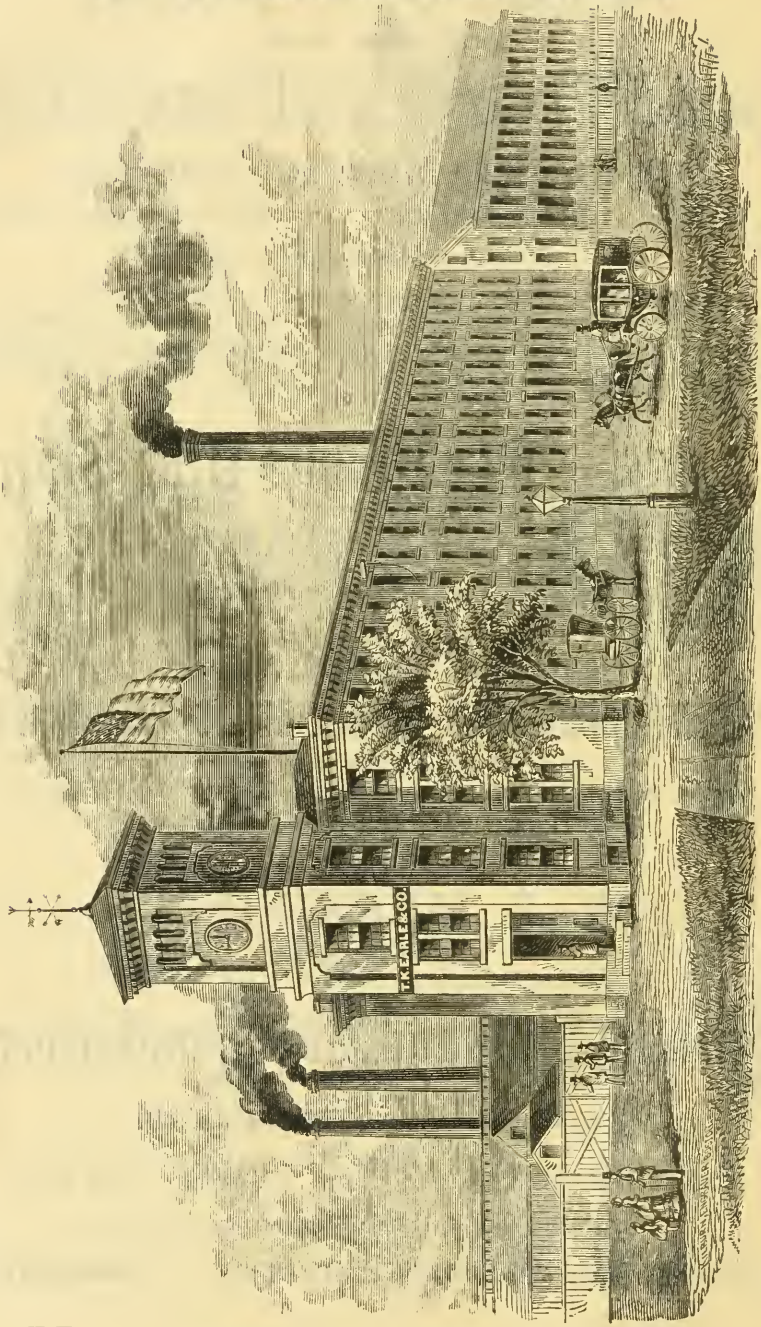

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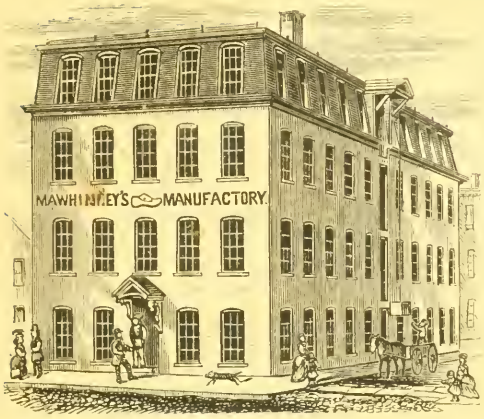

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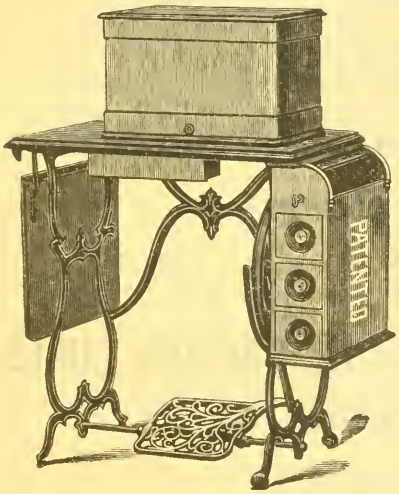

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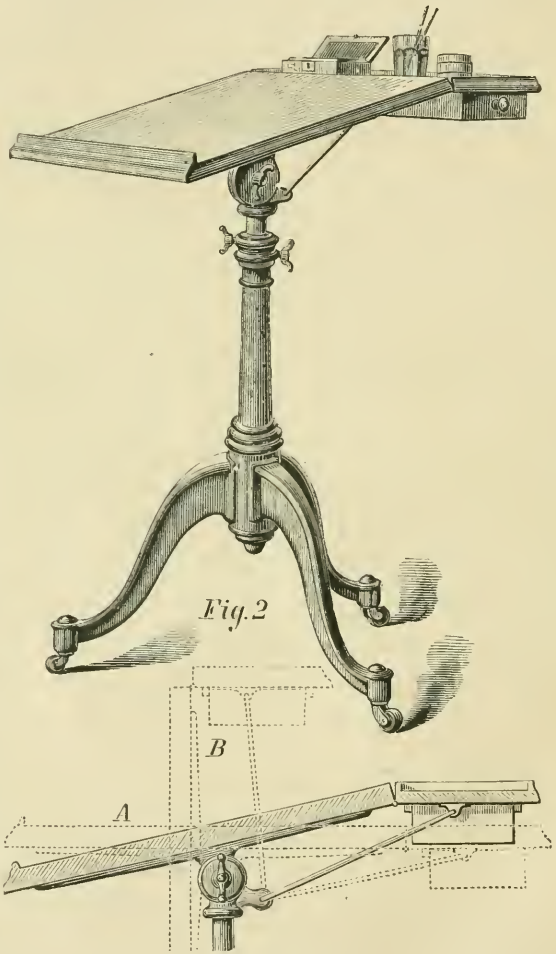

Fig. 2

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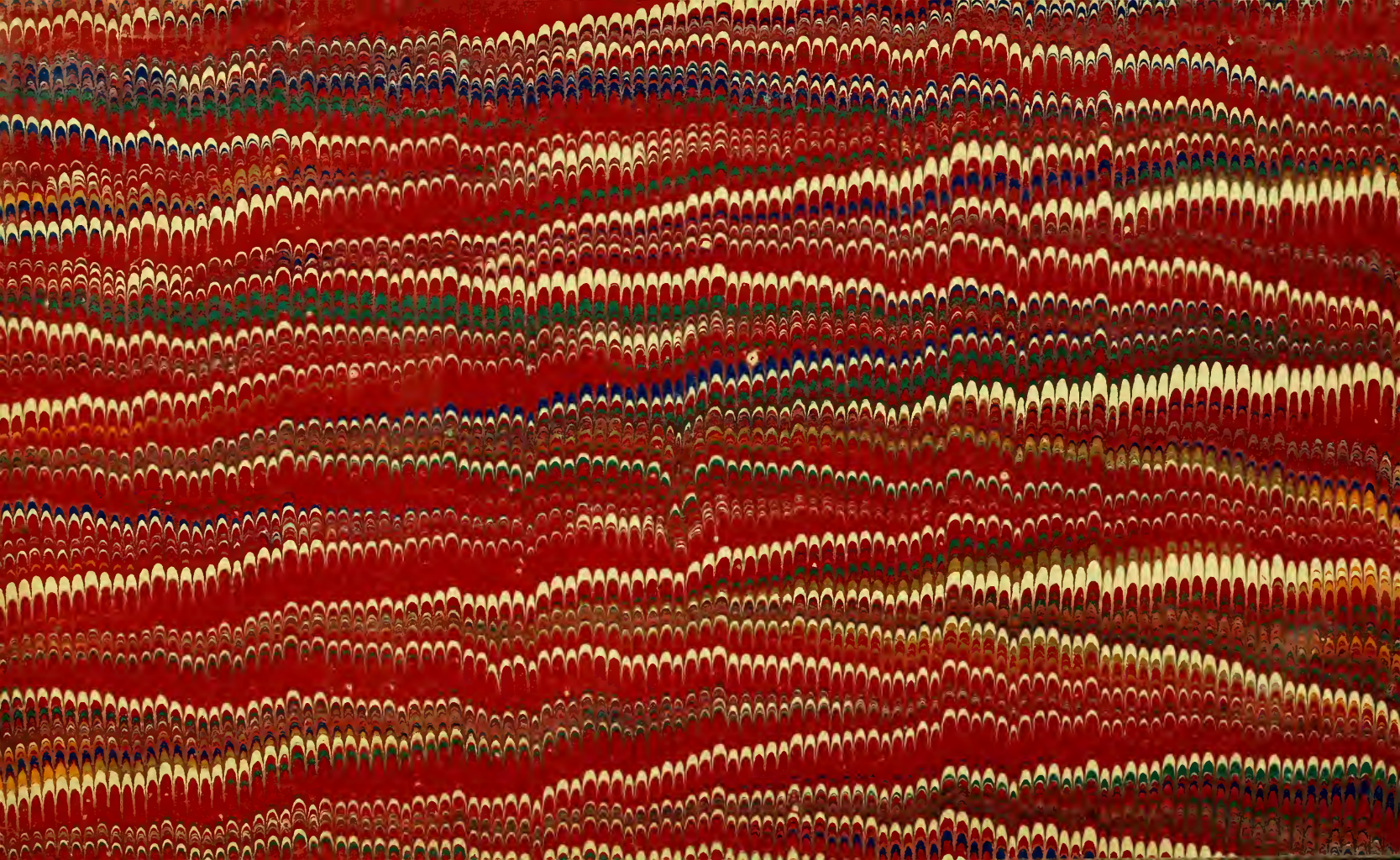

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